

THE GOOD W OF THE WEST™

TOKYOPOP®



Art by
Harabiko Momokawa

Story by
Noriko Ogiwara



— EVANGELINE —

The Good Witch of the West Volume 3

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THE GOOD WITCH OF THE WEST™

Story by Noriko Ogiwara
Art by Haruhiko Momokawa



Volume 3



HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO

Story so far in

THE GOOD WITCH OF THE WEST™

The Star Queen Astraea rules Graal, a fairy-tale kingdom in which good and the Light prevail. Heretics are condemned with the utmost fervor. But one of the daughters of the Star Queen, Edilene, chose a heretic as a lover, and was banished with him to a cold tower in the harsh highlands of Sera Field.

Years later, fifteen-year-old Firiël Dee, daughter of the reclusive Professor Dee and the late Edilene, learns she's a Queen-in-Waiting, a potential heir to the throne of Graal, when an unusual heirloom necklace is recognized at the Roland family ball as proof of her royal blood!

Soon after, Firiël's home is destroyed, her servant killed, her father gone missing, and her best friend Rune, the professor's apprentice, kidnapped. Using her newfound status as a granddaughter of the Star Queen Astraea, Firiël, with the assistance of the Rolands, rescues Rune.

In return for Rune's protection by the house Roland, Firiël agrees to join Adale Roland as a confidante at the palace at Ilteraghton. But first Firiël must learn to be a lady at Taurus Academy.

Main Characters



Firiel



Rune



Adale



Eusis



Professor Dee



Lot



Tabitha and
Bo Holy



Leandra
Cheviat



Marie

Main Characters



Ravenna



Igraine



Vincent



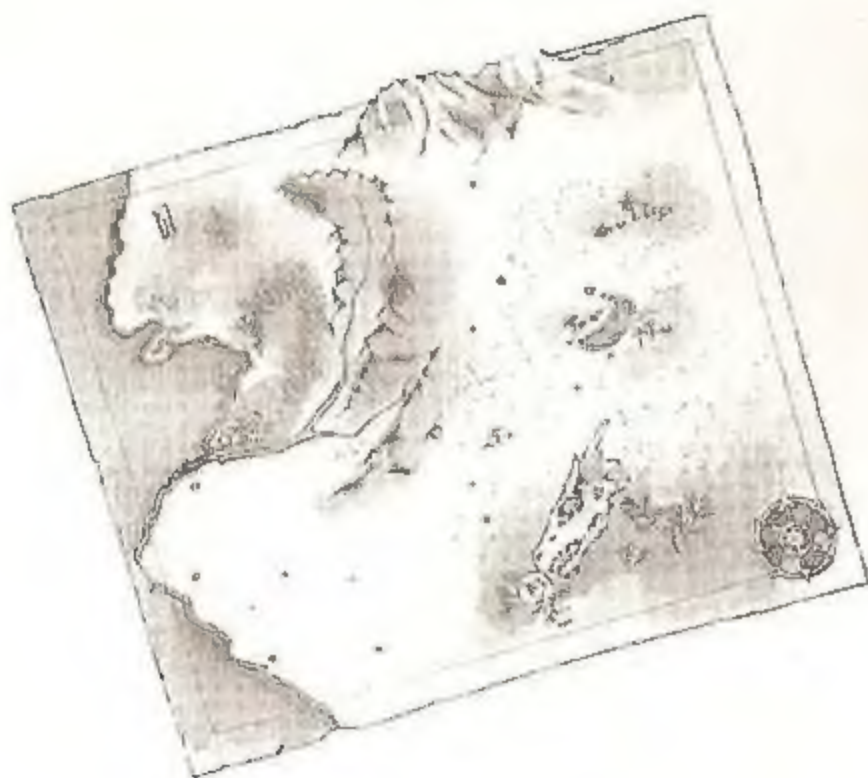
Cisarila



Prophecy

The Good Witch of the West
and the Brave King of the East
summoned a wise man and a poet,
then traveled to an icy city.
The end begins when the
midday star falls from the sky.
Who is standing behind you?
That...

(from a children's tale in Fenistell)



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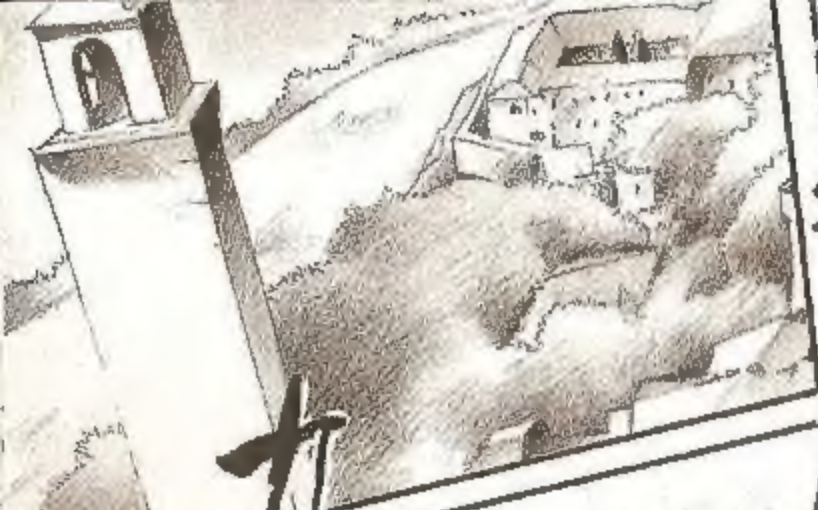
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Chapter 10: Down the Garden Path





THIS IS
TYRANNY!

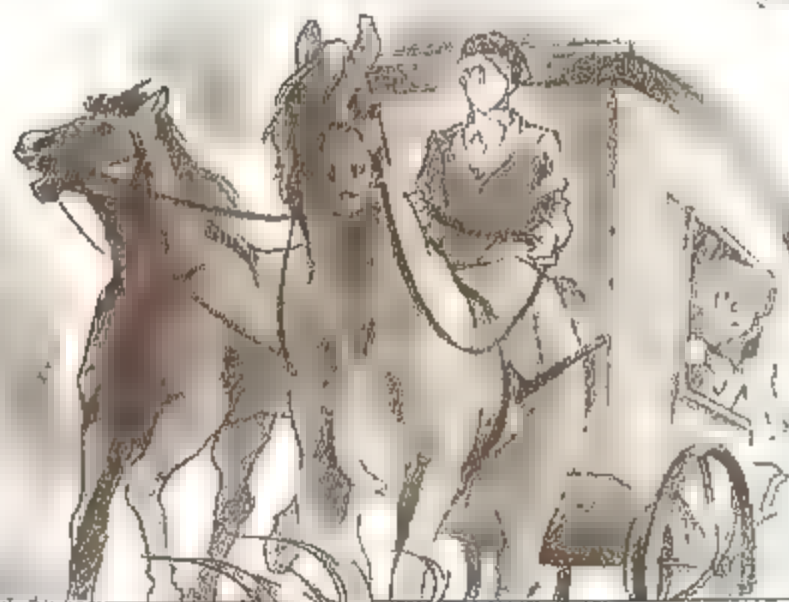
OOH,
FATHER!

I'LL BE
OKAY,
ADALE.

I CANNOT BELIEVE
HE ENROLLED YOU
IN THE TAURUS
GIRLS' ACADEMY!
IT'S TOO MUCH!
YOU DON'T KNOW
NEARLY ENOUGH TO
SURVIVE IN SUCH
A DANGEROUS
PLACE, FIRIEL!

LEARNING AT
AN ALL-GIRLS'
SCHOOL FOR
THE NOBILITY IS
THE QUICKEST
WAY FOR ME
TO RISE TO
YOUR LEVEL OF
EXPERTISE,
DON'T
YOU
THINK?

YOU'RE RIGHT
I KNOW ALMOST
NOTHING ABOUT THE
WORLD OF THE NOBLES.
BUT WE DON'T HAVE
MUCH TIME, SO THIS
CALLS FOR DRASTIC
MEASURES.



BE
CAREFUL,
FIRIEL.
PLEASE.

I
WILL.



LORD
EUSIS!

LOOK IN
ON HIM
FROM
TIME TO
TIME!



PLEASE,
MY
LORD!

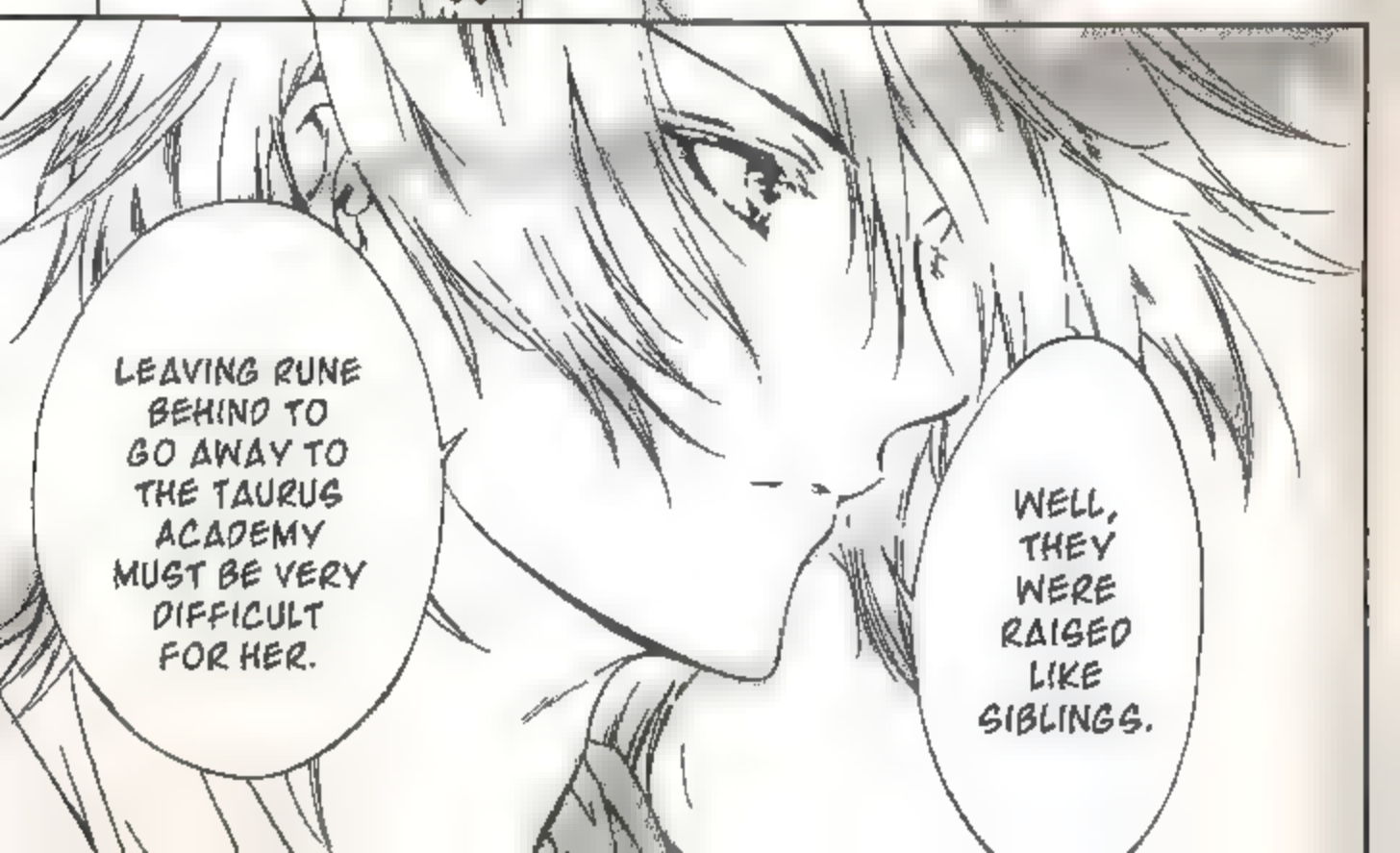
TAKE
CARE
OF
RUNE!



...HE'LL
EVEN
FORGET
TO EAT!

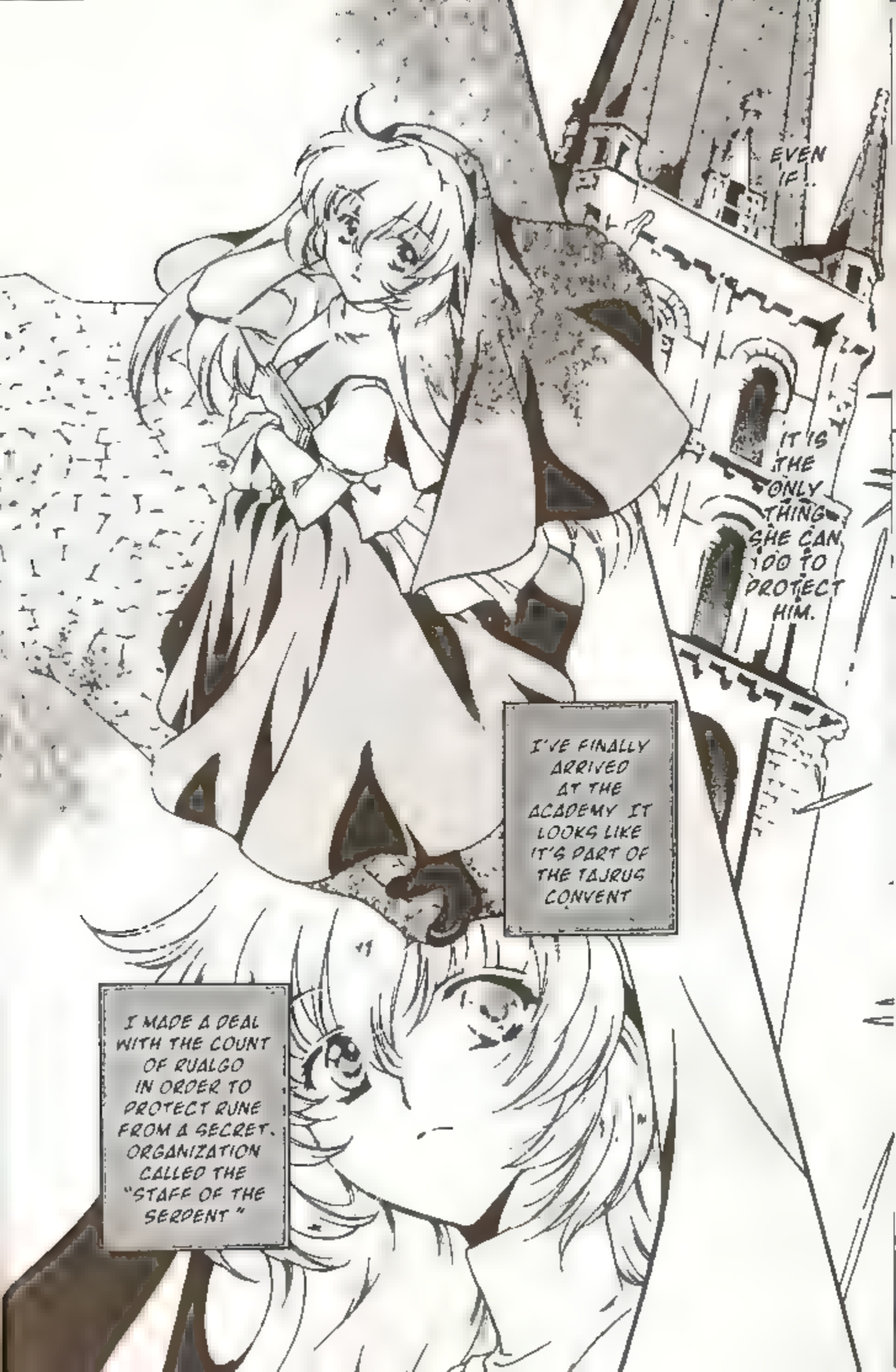
PLEASE!
IF
SOMEONE
DOESN'T
KEEP AN
EYE ON
HIM.

FIRIEL IS
ALWAYS SO
CONCERNED
ABOUT SIR
RUNE.



LEAVING RUNE
BEHIND TO
GO AWAY TO
THE TAURUS
ACADEMY
MUST BE VERY
DIFFICULT
FOR HER.

WELL,
THEY
WERE
RAISED
LIKE
SIBLINGS.

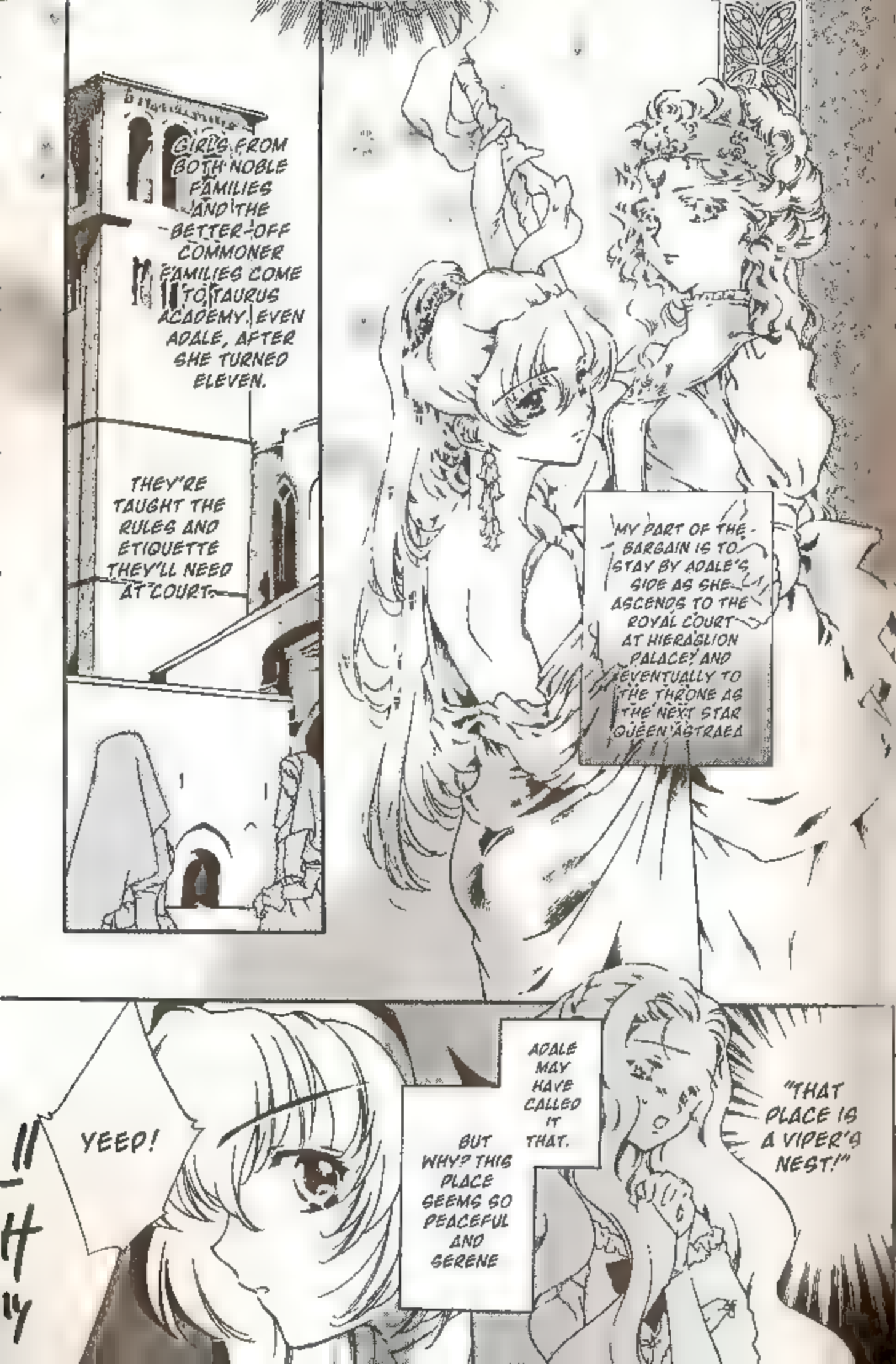


EVEN
IF...

IT IS
THE
ONLY
THING
SHE CAN
DO TO
PROTECT
HIM.

I'VE FINALLY
ARRIVED
AT THE
ACADEMY IT
LOOKS LIKE
IT'S PART OF
THE TAJRUS
CONVENT

I MADE A DEAL
WITH THE COUNT
OF RUALGO
IN ORDER TO
PROTECT RUNE
FROM A SECRET
ORGANIZATION
CALLED THE
"STAFF OF THE
SERPENT"



GIRLS FROM
BOTH NOBLE
FAMILIES
AND THE
BETTER-OFF
COMMONER
FAMILIES COME
TO TAURUS
ACADEMY, EVEN
ADALE, AFTER
SHE TURNED
ELEVEN.

THEY'RE
TAUGHT THE
RULES AND
ETIQUETTE
THEY'LL NEED
AT COURT.

MY PART OF THE
BARGAIN IS TO
STAY BY ADALE'S
SIDE AS SHE
ASCENDS TO THE
ROYAL COURT
AT HIERAGLION
PALACE, AND
EVENTUALLY TO
THE THRONE AS
THE NEXT STAR
QUEEN ASTRAEA

YEEP!

ADALE
MAY
HAVE
CALLED
IT
THAT.

BUT
WHY? THIS
PLACE
SEEMS SO
PEACEFUL
AND
SERENE

"THAT
PLACE IS
A VIPER'S
NEST!"



ARE
YOU
OKAY?



SHE
LOOKS
ABOUT
THE SAME
AGE AS
ME!

MY NAME IS
FIRIEL. I JUST
TRANSFERRED
HERE TODAY.

I HOPE WE
WILL BE
FRIENDS.

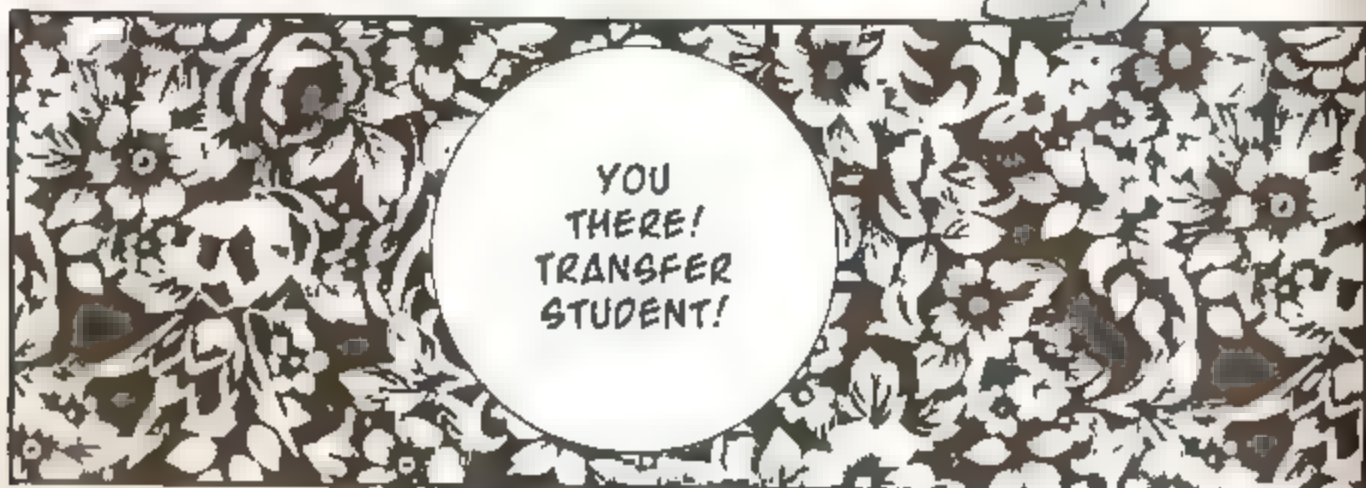


YOU
MUSTN'T
BE SEEN
TALKING
TO ME. !

NO, YOU
MUSTN'T



YOU
HAVEN'T
SCRAPEO
YOURSELF
UP, HAVE
YOU?



YOU
THERE!
TRANSFER
STUDENT!

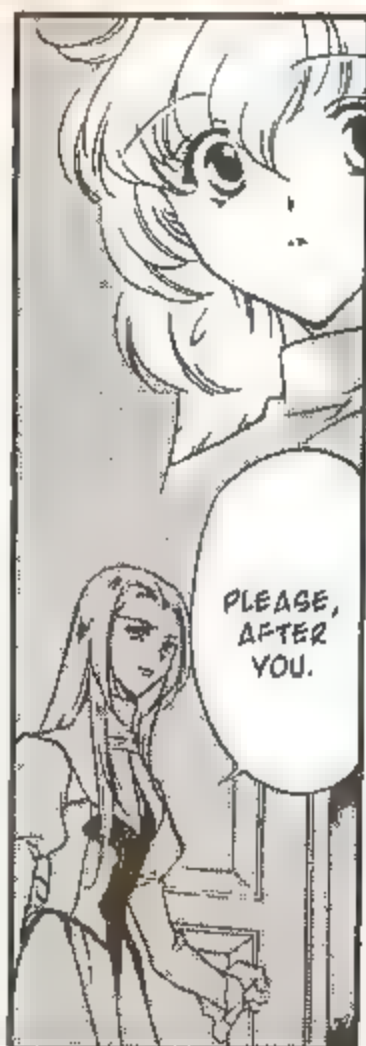
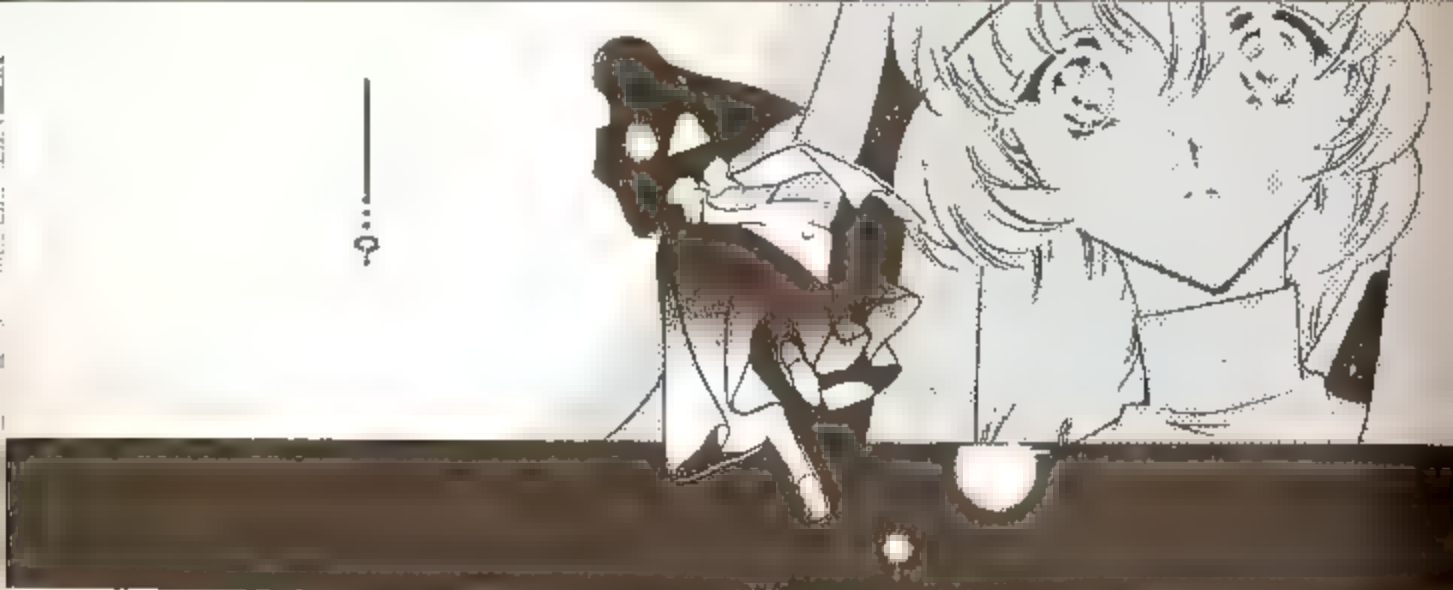


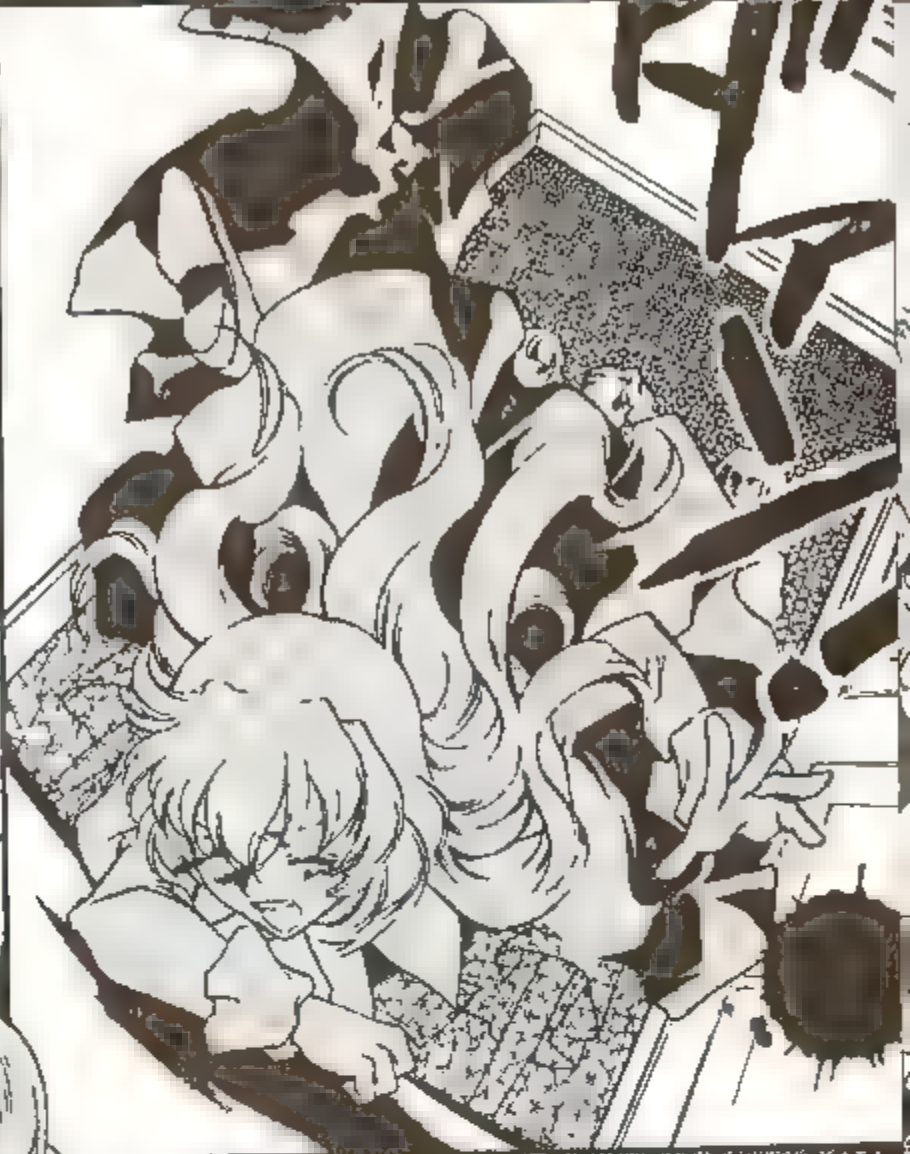
!!

AS YOU HAVE JUST
ENROLLED IN THE
ACADEMY, YOU WILL
NEED COPIES OF
THE ACADEMY RULES
AND THE STUDENT
HANDBOOK.

WE ARE
MEMBERS OF
THE TAURUS
ACADEMY
STUDENT
COUNCIL.

WE HAVE
EXTRAS IN
THE STUDENT
COUNCIL ROOM
IF YOU WOULD
BE SO KIND AS
TO FOLLOW
US.

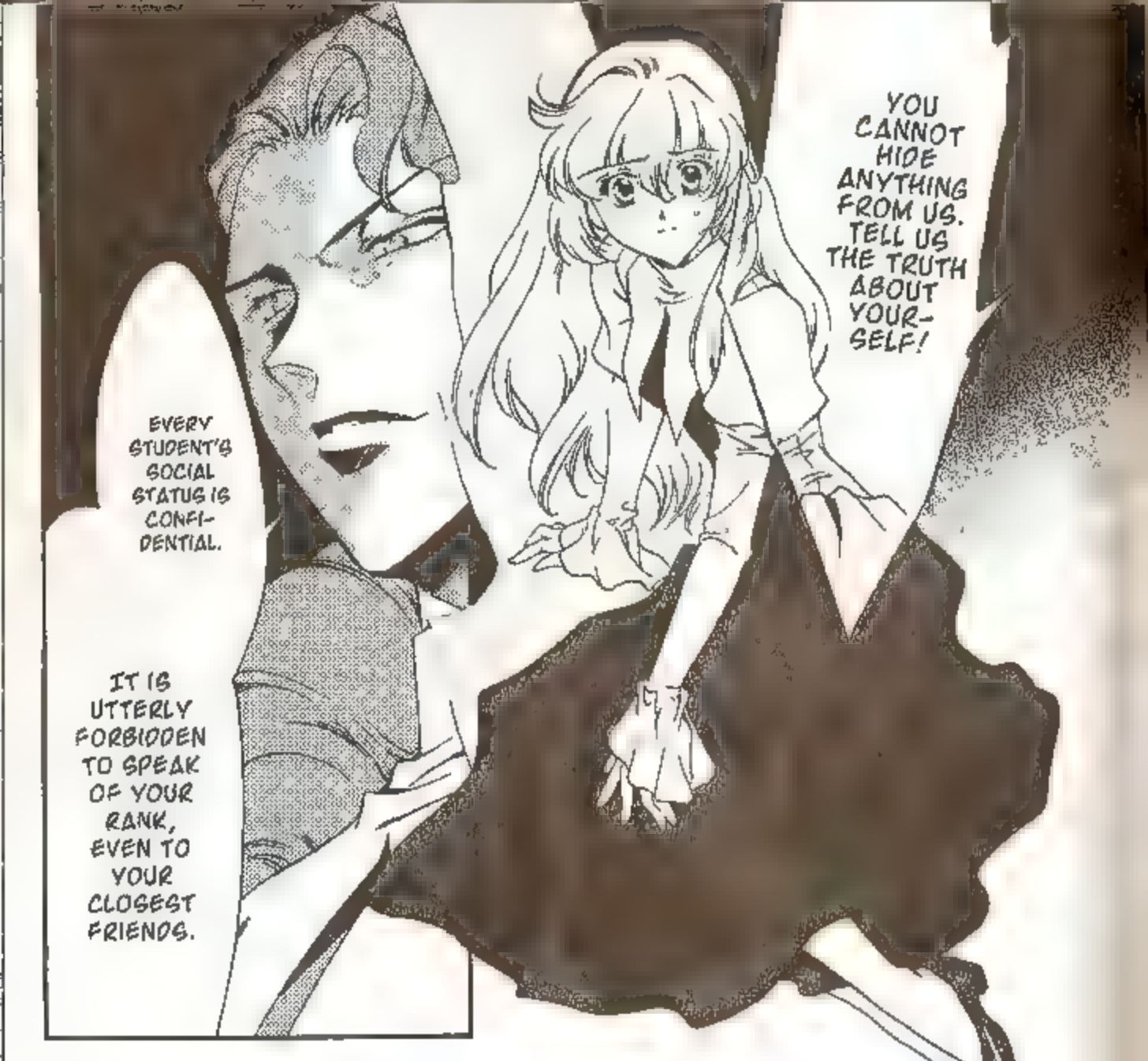




WH...

TELL US
WHO YOU
REALLY
ARE!

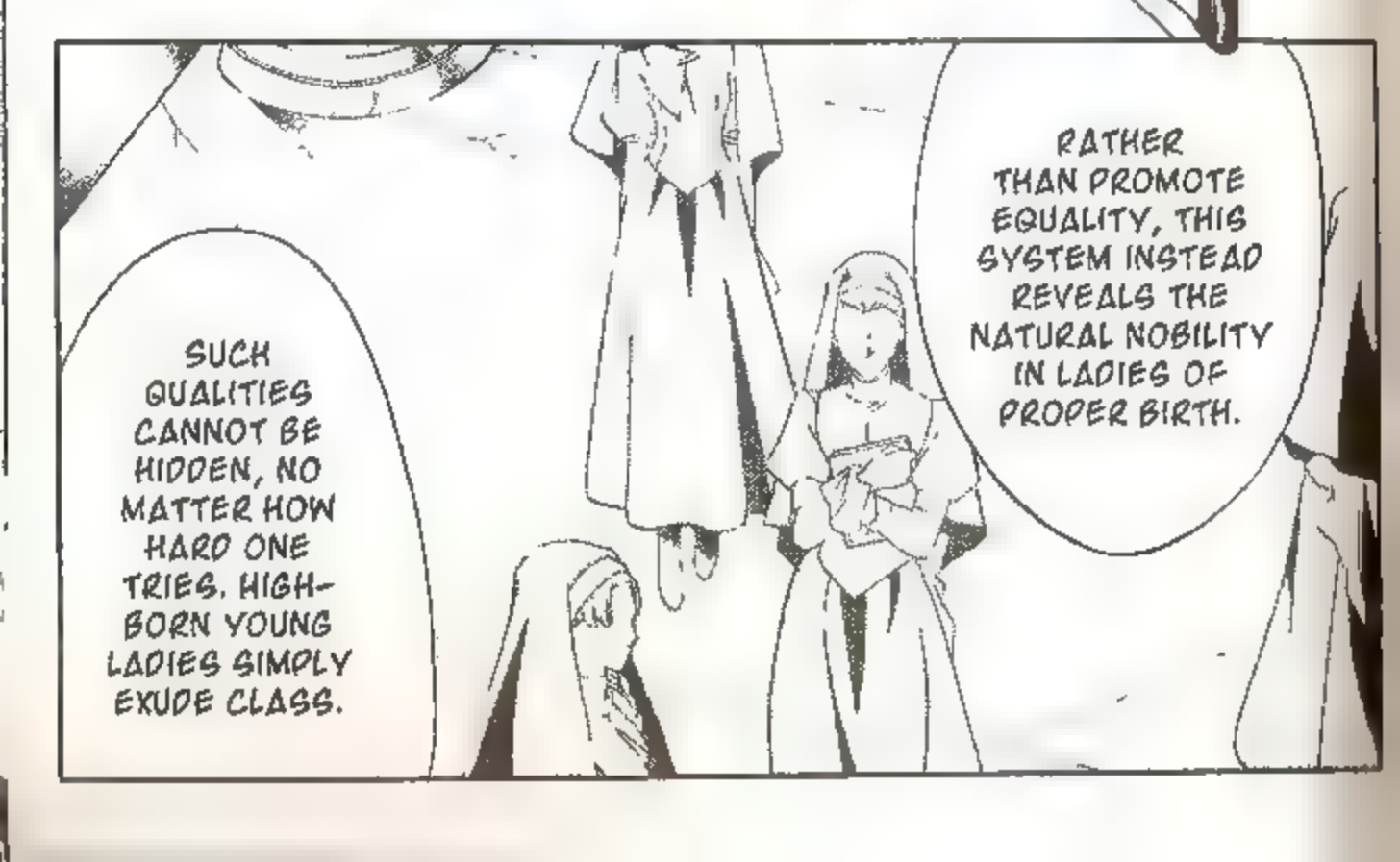
WHY DID
YOU DO
THAT?!



EVERY
STUDENT'S
SOCIAL
STATUS IS
CONFIDENTIAL.

IT IS
UTTERLY
FORBIDDEN
TO SPEAK
OF YOUR
RANK,
EVEN TO
YOUR
CLOSEST
FRIENDS.

YOU
CANNOT
HIDE
ANYTHING
FROM US.
TELL US
THE TRUTH
ABOUT
YOUR-
SELF!



SUCH
QUALITIES
CANNOT BE
HIDDEN, NO
MATTER HOW
HARD ONE
TRIES. HIGH-
BORN YOUNG
LADIES SIMPLY
EXUDE CLASS.

RATHER
THAN PROMOTE
EQUALITY, THIS
SYSTEM INSTEAD
REVEALS THE
NATURAL NOBILITY
IN LADIES OF
PROPER BIRTH.



YOU, ON THE
OTHER HAND,
HAVE ALREADY
AMPLIFIED YOUR
RACE
NATURE!

TELL US BY
WHICH OFFERS
WERE YOU
SENT TO THIS
ACADEMY?

YOU ARE
ALREADY
A MALE'S
DAUGHTER

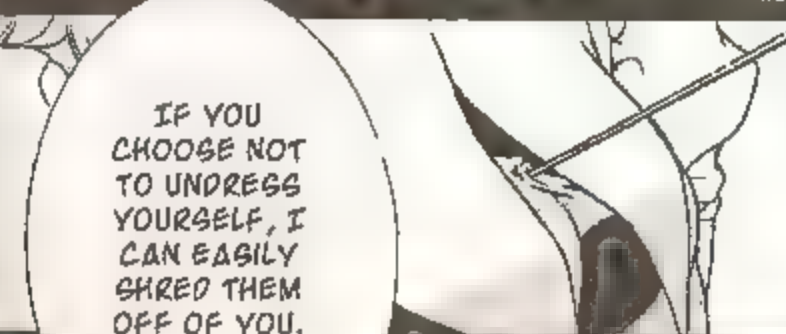
WHICH
NAME
WILL
GIVE YOU
CREDIT?



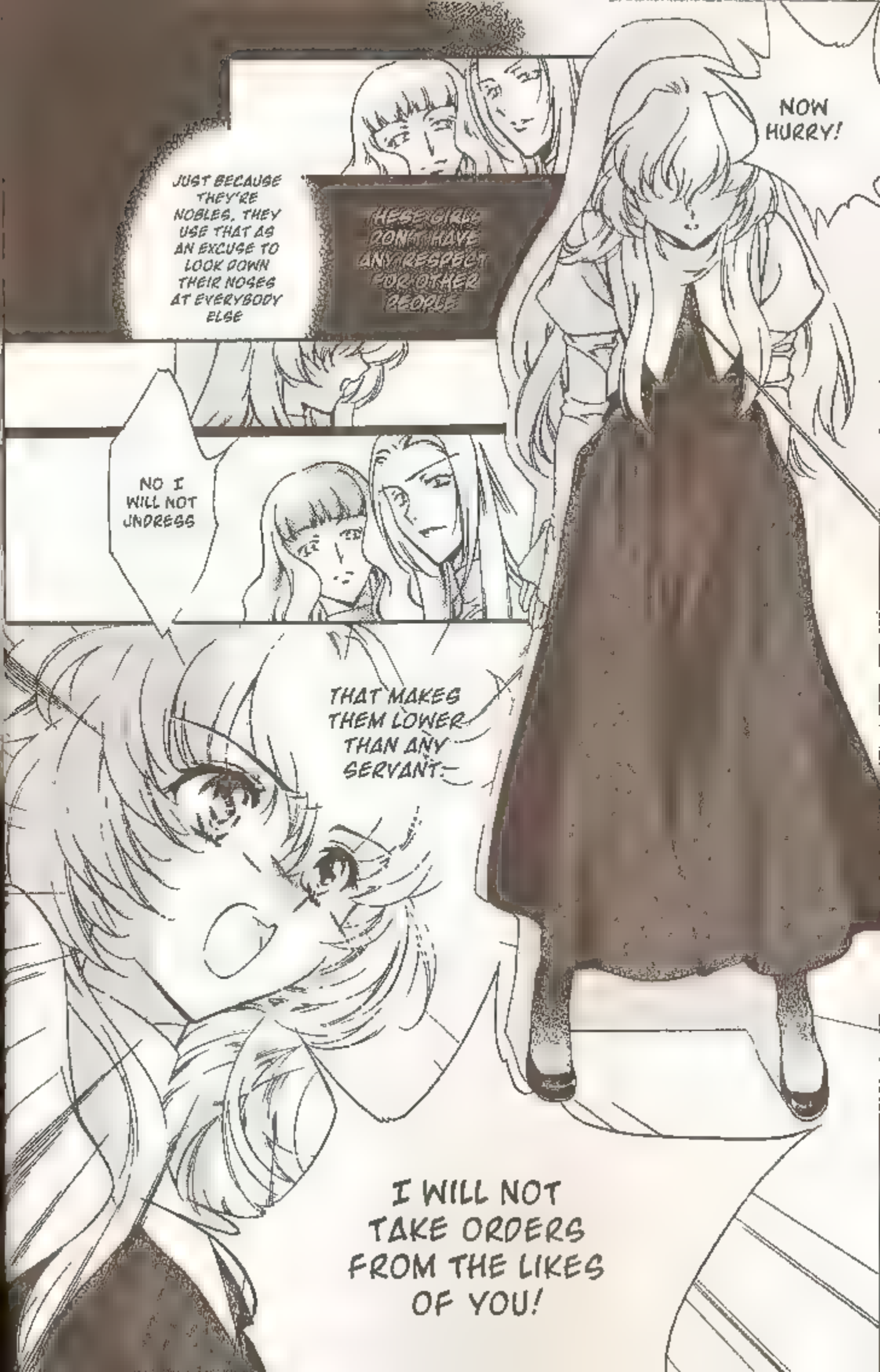
NOW
REMOVE
YOUR
CLOTHING!



SINCE
EVERYONE
HERE MUST WEAR
UNIFORMS, THE
EASIEST WAY
TO DETERMINE A
GIRL'S RANK IS
TO EVALUATE HER
UNDERCLOTHES.



IF YOU
CHOOSE NOT
TO UNDRRESS
YOURSELF, I
CAN EASILY
SHRED THEM
OFF OF YOU.



NOW
HURRY!

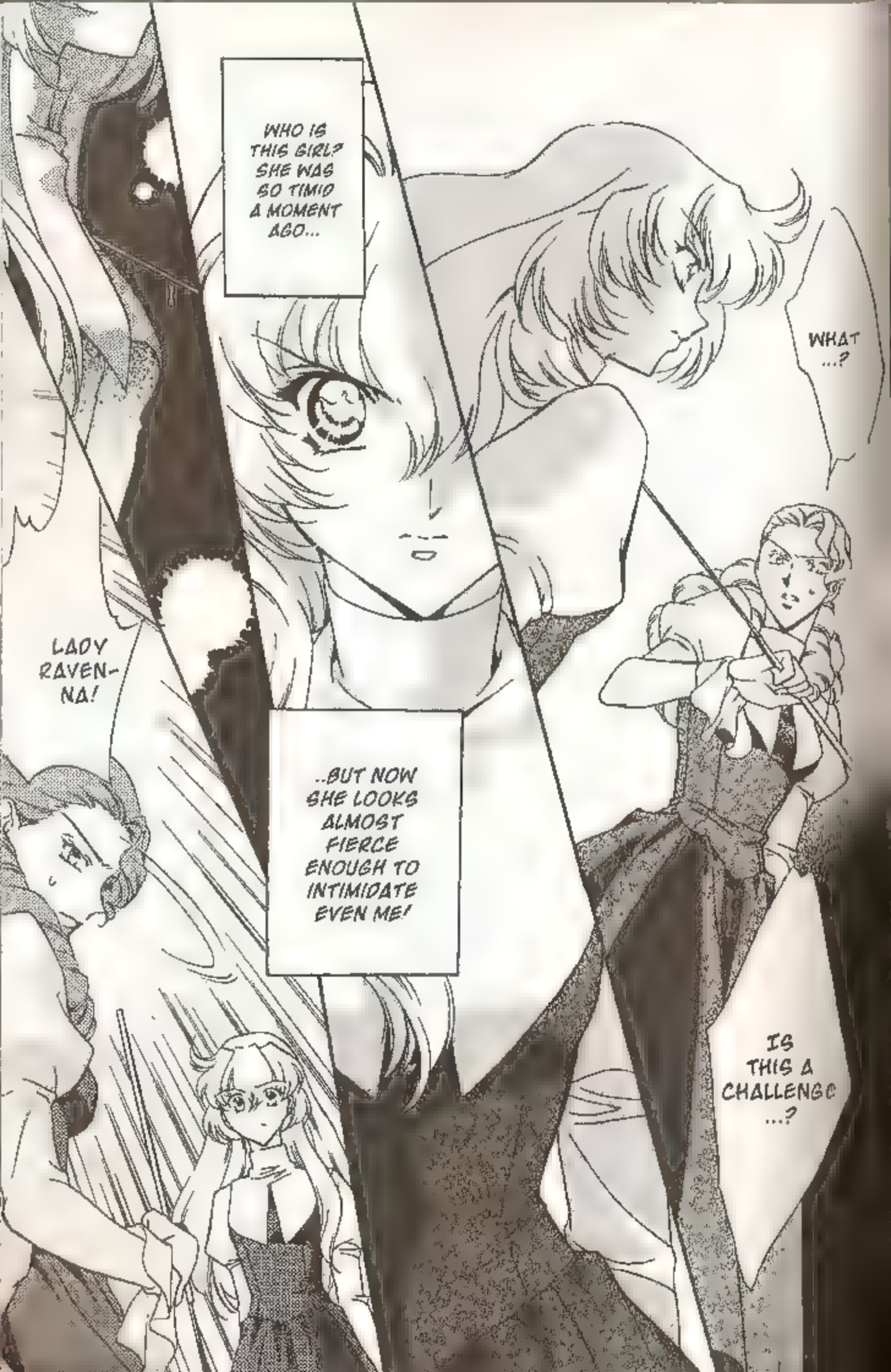
JUST BECAUSE
THEY'RE
NOBLES, THEY
USE THAT AS
AN EXCUSE TO
LOOK DOWN
THEIR NOSES
AT EVERYBODY
ELSE

THESE GIRLS
DON'T HAVE
ANY RESPECT
FOR OTHER
PEOPLE

NO I
WILL NOT
UNDRESS

THAT MAKES
THEM LOWER
THAN ANY
SERVANT.

I WILL NOT
TAKE ORDERS
FROM THE LIKES
OF YOU!



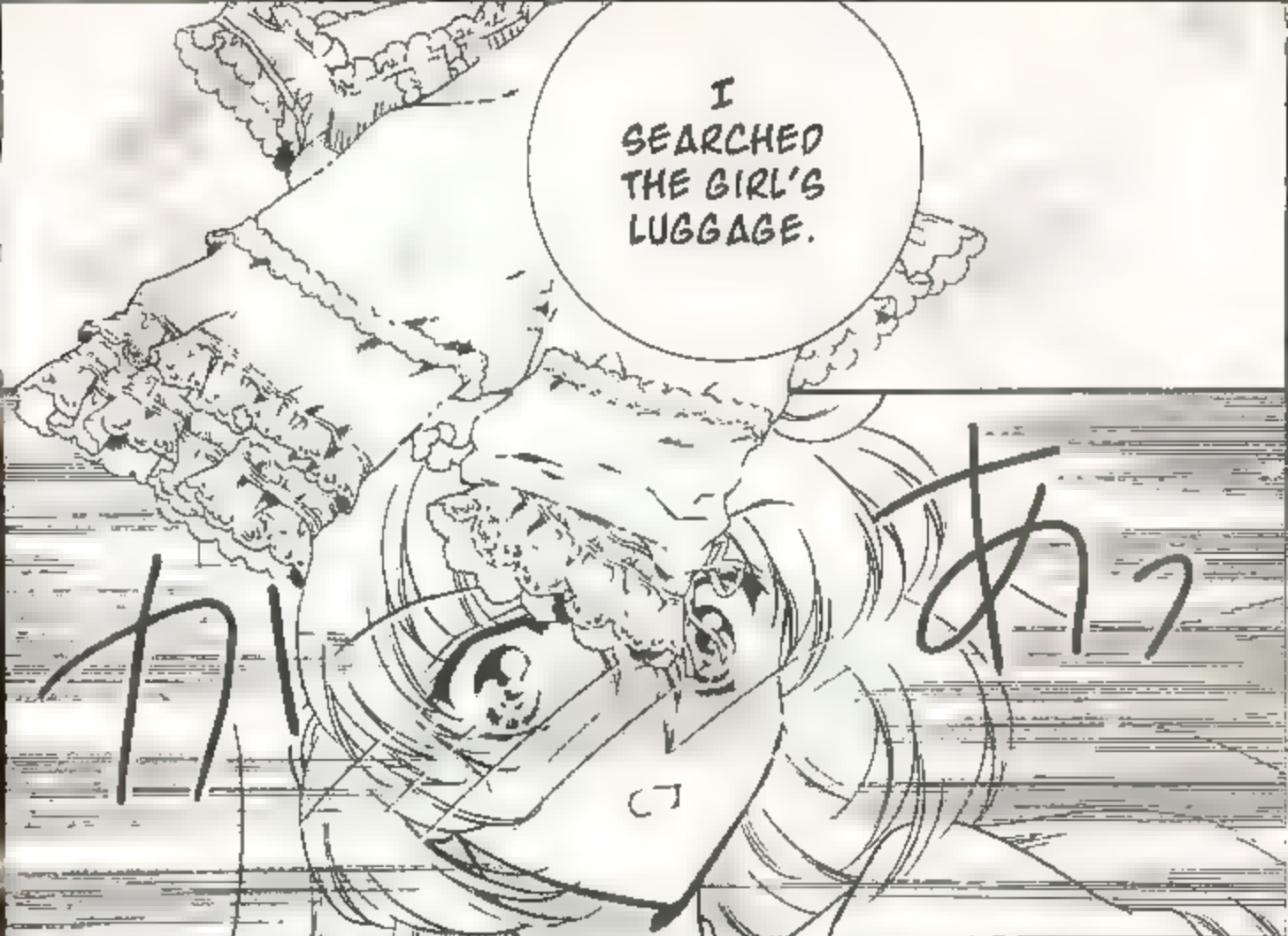
WHO IS
THIS GIRL?
SHE WAS
SO TIMID
A MOMENT
AGO...

WHAT
...?

LADY
RAVEN-
NA!

...BUT NOW
SHE LOOKS
ALMOST
FIERCE
ENOUGH TO
INTIMIDATE
EVEN ME!

IS
THIS A
CHALLENGE
...?



I
SEARCHED
THE GIRL'S
LUGGAGE.



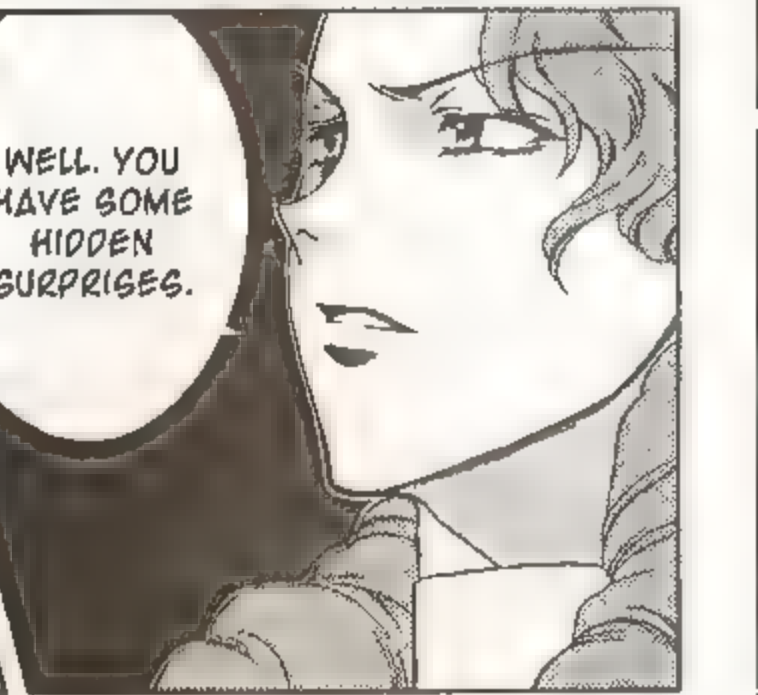
NO ONE
OUTSIDE OF
THE HIGH
NOBILITY
COULD EVER
AFFORD
GARMENTS
LIKE THESE.

WHAT?
THE LITTLE
WENCH!
THIS IS
REAL
LACE!

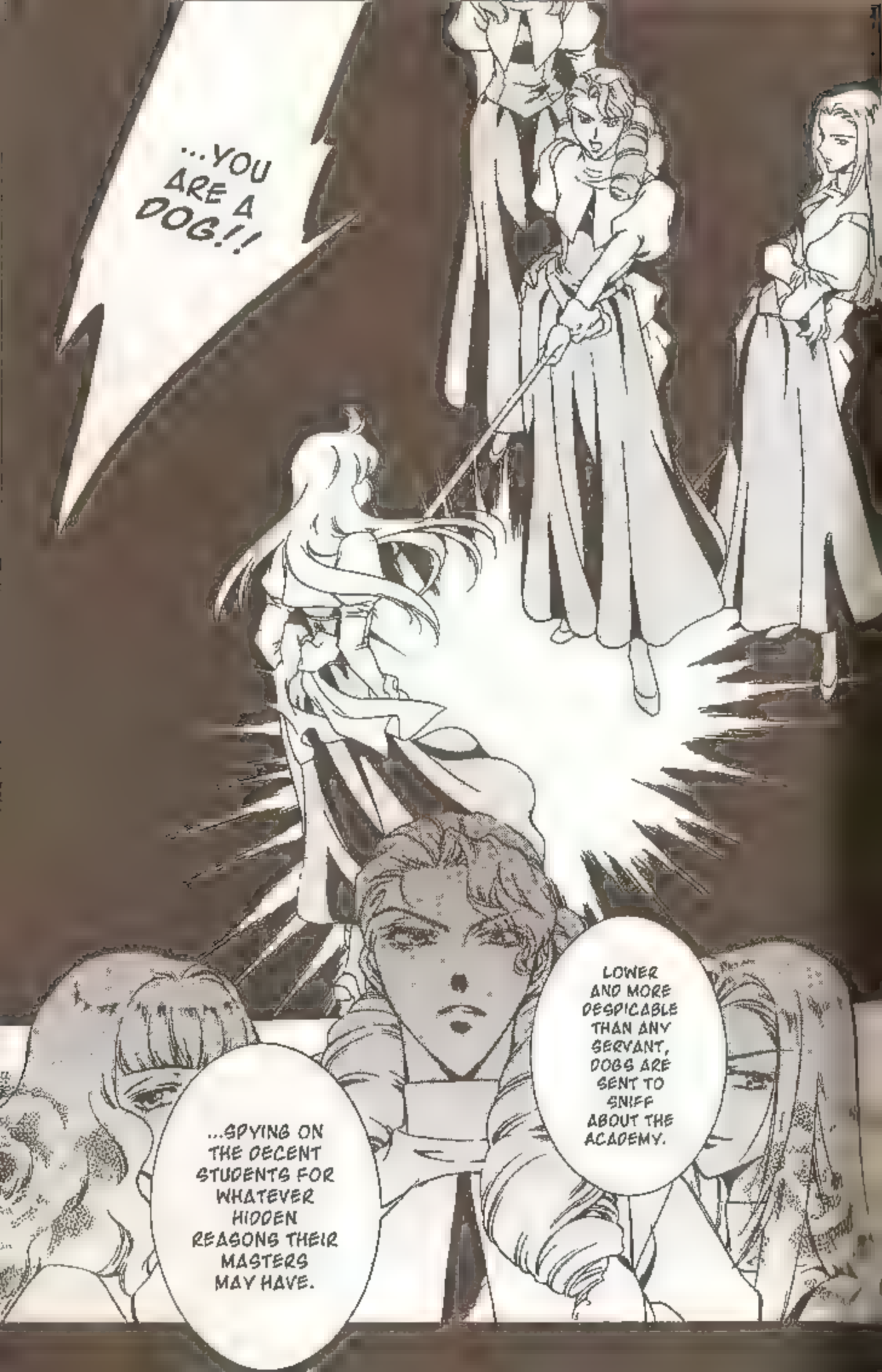


A
SERVANT
WEARING
A LADY'S
LACE
MEANS
ONLY ONE
THING...

GIVE
THOSE
BACK!



WELL. YOU
HAVE SOME
HIDDEN
SURPRISES.



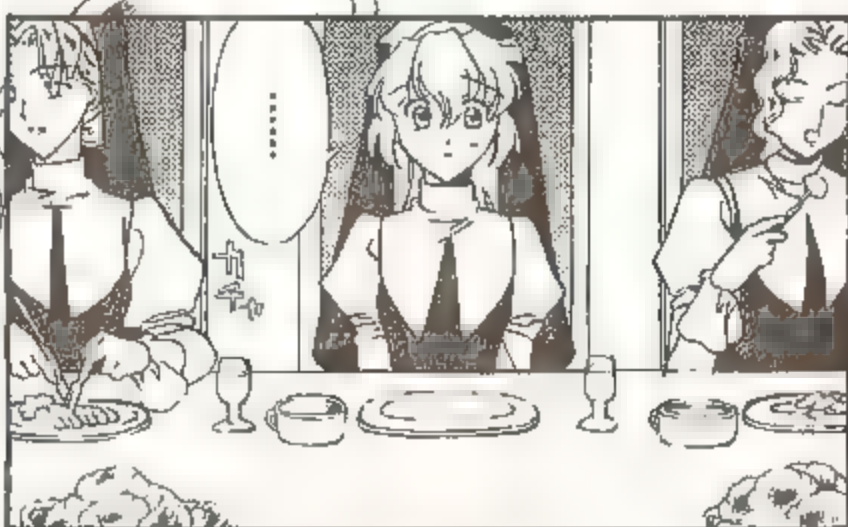
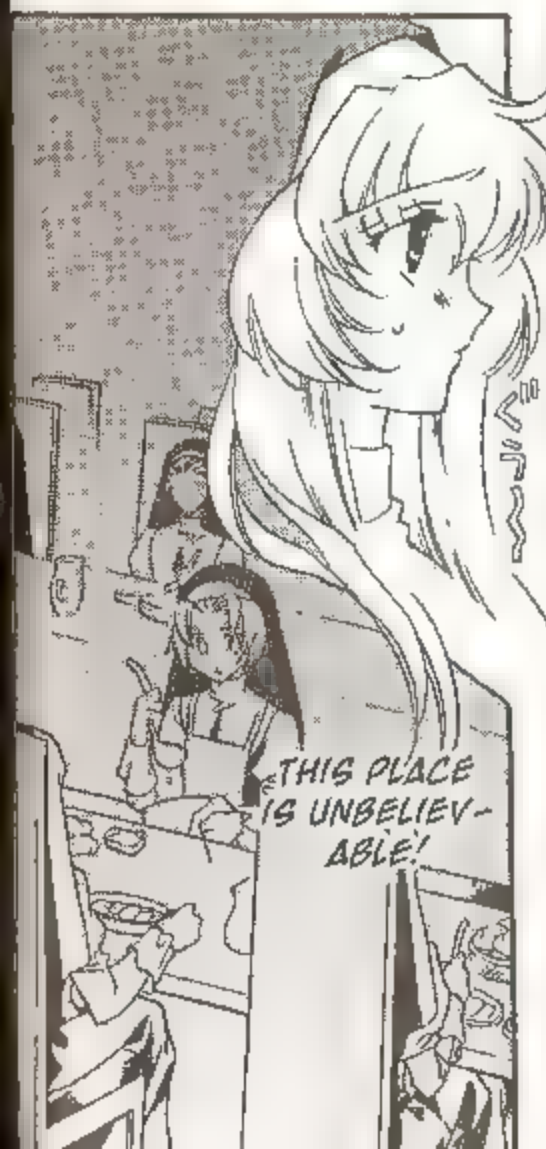
...YOU
ARE A
DOG!!

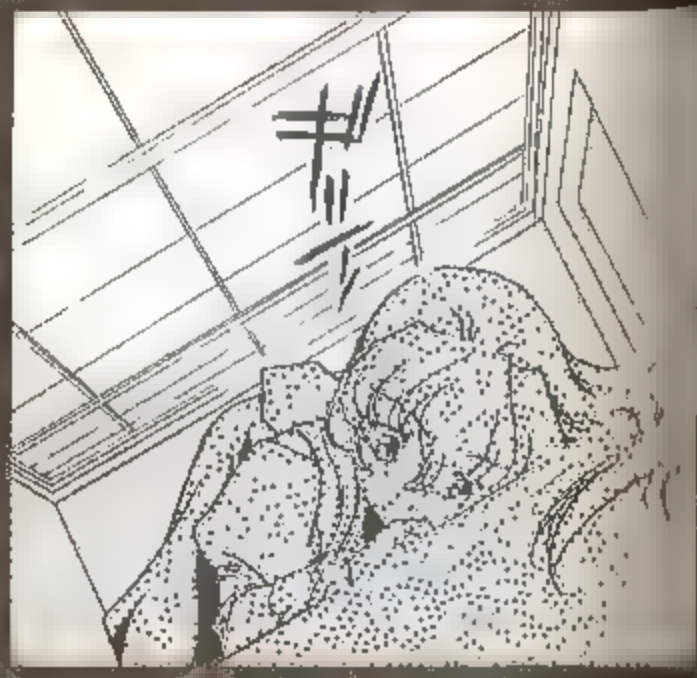
...SPYING ON
THE DECENT
STUDENTS FOR
WHATEVER
HIDDEN
REASONS THEIR
MASTERS
MAY HAVE.

LOWER
AND MORE
DESPICABLE
THAN ANY
SERVANT,
DOGS ARE
SENT TO
SNIFF
ABOUT THE
ACADEMY.

"FROM THIS
MOMENT
FORWARD, NO
STUDENT OF
THE ACADEMY
WILL UTTER ONE
WORD TO YOU!"

から...

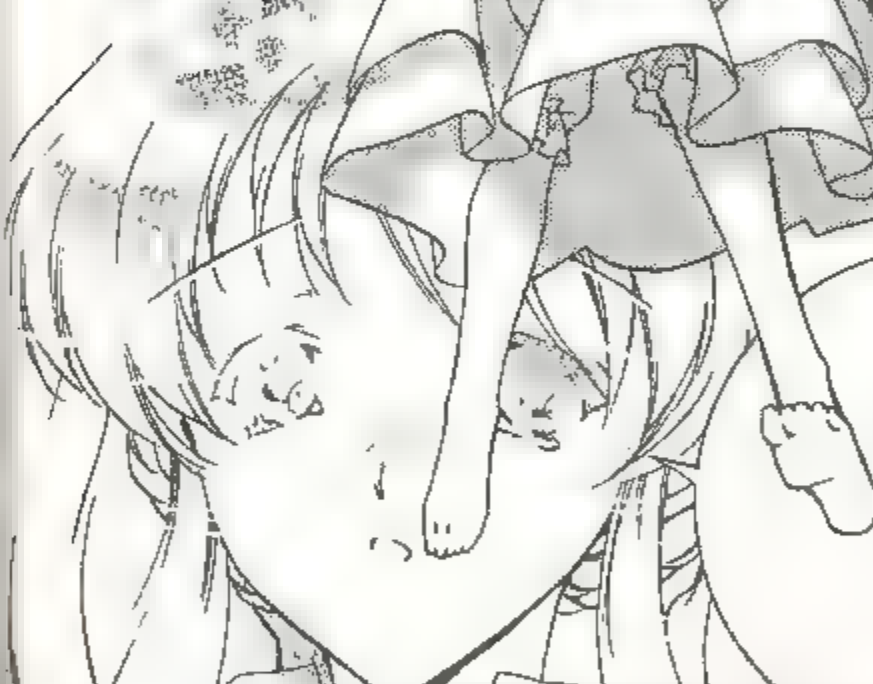






WHO'S
THERE?!

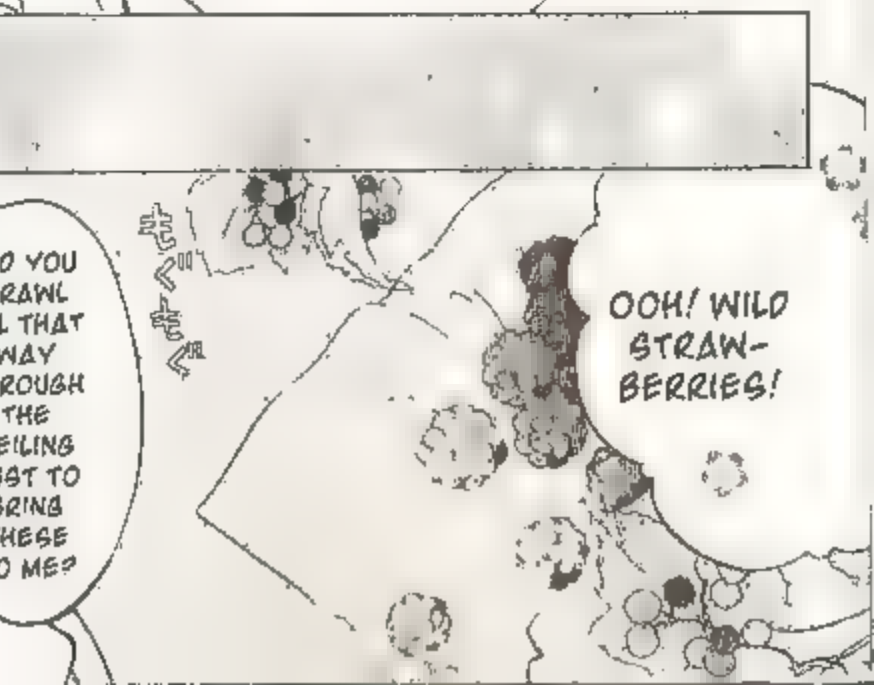
UM...



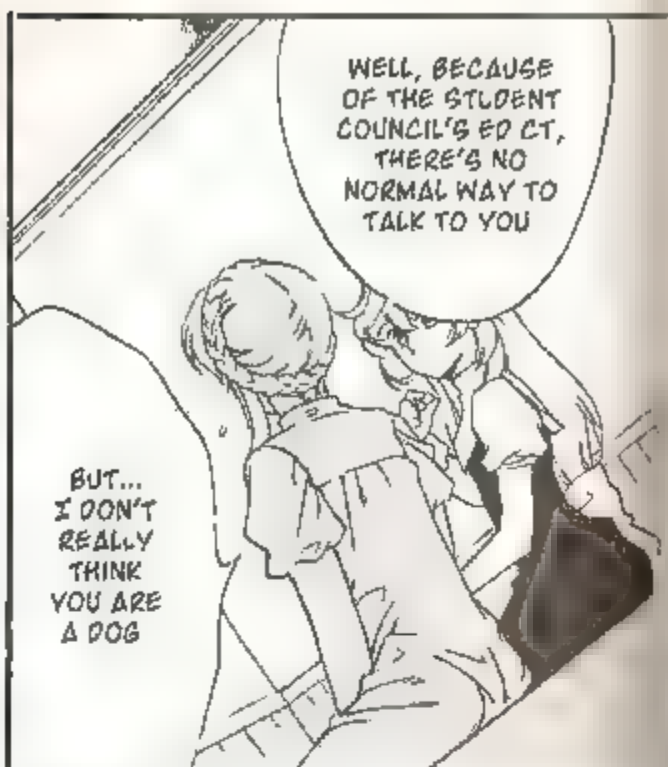
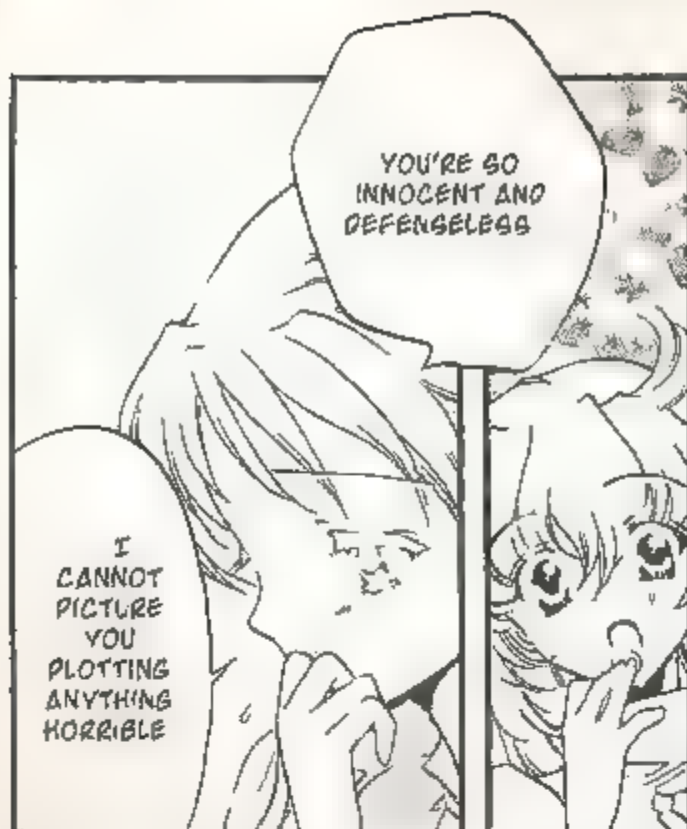
...PAROON
ME? WOULD
YOU BE KIND
ENOUGH TO
HELP ME
DOWN?



DID YOU
CRAWL
ALL THAT
WAY
THROUGH
THE
CEILING
JUST TO
BRING
THESE
TO ME?



OOH! WILD
STRAW-
BERRIES!





THE
STUDENT
COUNCIL
ARE THE
RULERS,
THE TOP
RANK.

THE
TAJRUS
ACADEMY
IS A
SCHOOL
MEANT
FOR YOUNG
LADIES
OF NOBLE
FAMILIES.

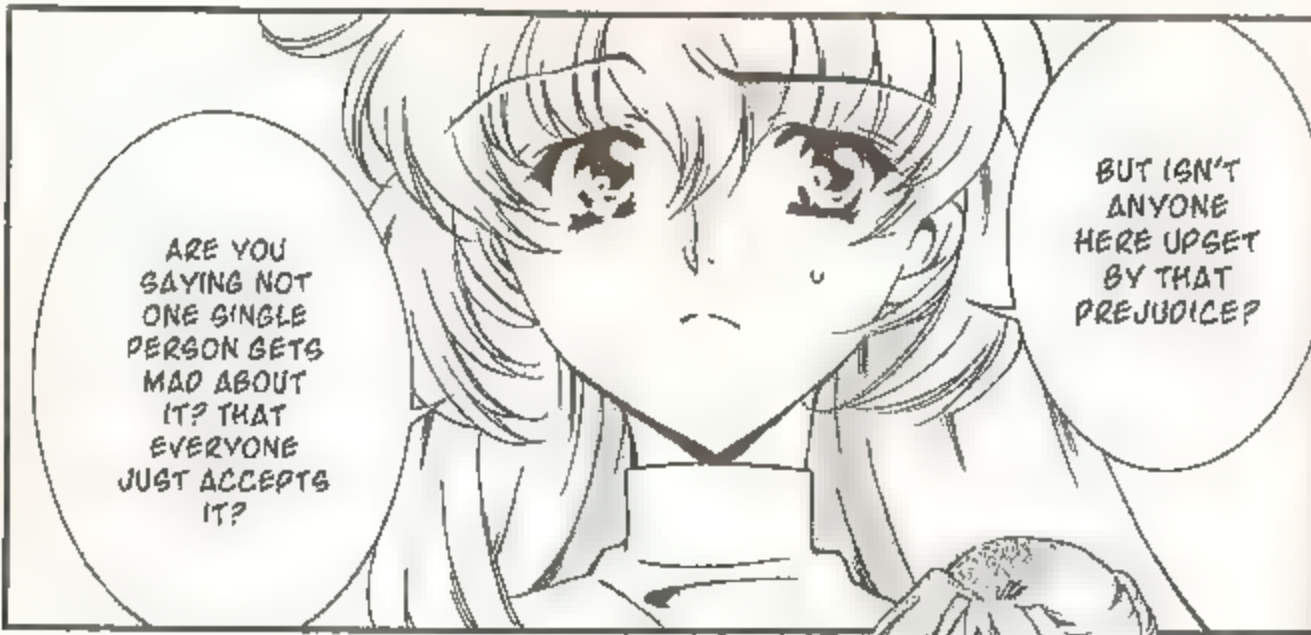
BUT
SOMETIMES
A LUCKY
COMMONER
MANAGES
TO ENROLL

MANY
TAKE THE SAME
CLASSES AS
TRUE YOUNG
LADIES SO THAT
THEY MIGHT
SOMEDAY POSE
AS LADIES
THEMSELVES,
FUNCTIONING
AS STAND-
ING FOR THEIR
MISTRESSES.

RAVENNA
IS THE
PRESIDENT.
HER TWO
CRONIES
ARE HYLIA
AND
LYTICIA

NO ONE
HERE
WOULD
EVER
DREAM OF
GOING UP
AGAINST
THOSE
THREE

ON THE
SURFACE,
THE ACADEMY
HAS NO
DISCRIMINATION
BASED ON
SOCIAL RANK,
BUT BY THE
TIME A STUDENT
REACHES THE
UPPER GRADES,
THE DIVISION
BETWEEN THE
RULERS AND
THE RULED IS
OBVIOUS



ARE YOU
SAYING NOT
ONE SINGLE
PERSON GETS
MAD ABOUT
IT? THAT
EVERYONE
JUST ACCEPTS
IT?

BUT ISN'T
ANYONE
HERE UPSET
BY THAT
PREJUDICE?



A COMMONER
LIKE ME HAS
BEEN GIVEN
THE CHANCE
TO ASSOCIATE
WITH TRUE
NOBLE LADIES!
ONE DAY, I
MIGHT EVEN BE
ALLOWED TO
SERVE QUEEN
ASTRAEA
HERSELF!

UPSET?
WHY
SHOULD
I BE
UPSET?



IF IT WERE
FOR HER
MAJESTY'S
SAKE, I WOULD
HAPPILY DO
ANYTHING, EVEN
IF IT MEANT
SACRIFICING
MY LIFE.

CISARIA'S
CLEAR
VIOLET
EYES ARE
AS SERENE
AS ANY
SISTER'S...

BUT THERE'S
NO WAY I'M
GOING TO
LET THOSE
PRISBY
GIRLS BOSS
ME AROUND!

SHOW
SOME
RESPECT
WHEN I'M
SPEAKING
TO YOU!

SUMMER
EQUINOX
FESTIVAL

SOME-
THING'S
NOT RIGHT
HERE

A
NORMAL
GRL
WOULD
BE
BEGGING
FOR
MERCY
BY NOW!

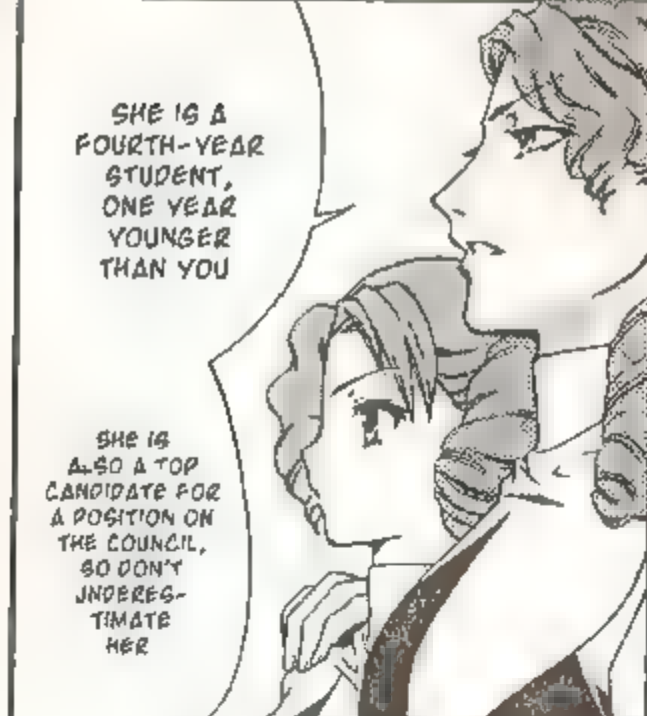
SHE'S BEEN
UTTERLY
IGNORED BY
EVERYONE
FOR AN
ENTIRE
TWO WEEKS

SO? WHAT
ABOUT IT?

EVERYONE
IS WELL
AWARE
THAT YOU
ARE A
DOG

ACCORDINGLY,
IT HAS BEEN
DECIDED THAT
A KEEPER WILL
BE ASSIGNED
TO YOU FOR
THE DURATION

LETTING
SOMEONE
LIKE YOU
ROAM AROUND
LOOSE DURING
SUCH AN
IMPORTANT
EVENT IS
UNACCEPT-
ABLE



SHE IS A
FOURTH-YEAR
STUDENT,
ONE YEAR
YOUNGER
THAN YOU

SHE IS
ALSO A TOP
CANDIDATE FOR
A POSITION ON
THE COUNCIL,
SO DON'T
UNDERES-
TIMATE
HER



HER
NAME IS
ROSELITTE



BE MY
GUEST.



NOTHING
SEEMS TO
WORK RIGHT
WITH HER



I'M HERE
ONLY
BECAUSE IT
IS MY DUTY
TO WATCH
YOU,
NOTHING
MORE



JUST
SO YOU
KNOW,
YOU'RE
NOT THE
ONE I
WAS
MAD AT

LET
ME MAKE
ONE THING
CLEAR I
HAVE NO
INTENTION
OF SPEAK-
ING TO
YOU.



I'M SORRY
ABOUT HOW
GROUCHY I
WAS BACK
THERE.



JUST WHAT
KIND OF
FAMILY IS
SHE FROM,
ANYWAY?

WHAT
DETERMINATION
IN HER EYES...

Heh.

JUST LIKE A
WELL-TRAINED
HUNTING DOG.

ONE
PERSON I
NOW ALWAYS
LOOKS LIKE HE
JUST BIT INTO
A LEMON OR
SOMETHING

YOU SEE,
I'M USED
TO SOUR-
LOOKING
PEOPLE.

BUT WHEN
SOMETHING
REALLY
TERRIBLE
HAPPENS,
HE'S ALWAYS
THERE TO
HELP ME

OH,
SORRY.

I WAS
JUST
THINKING
THAT I
COULD
REALLY
LEARN TO
LIKE YOU.

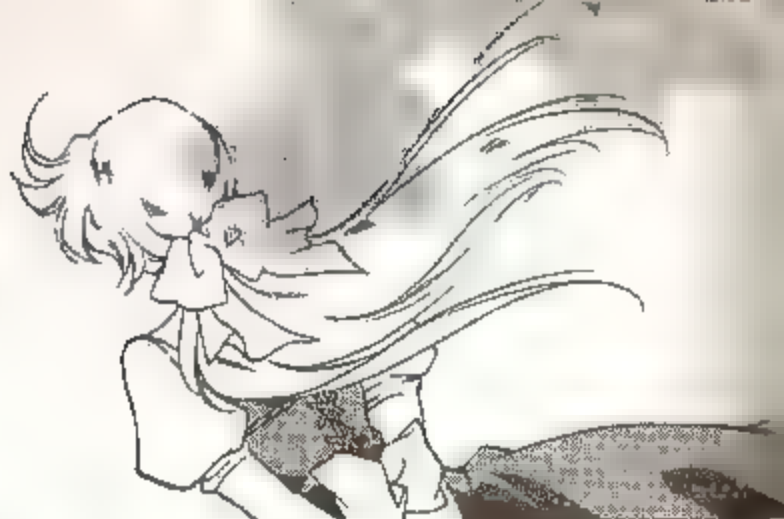
WHY
DID YOU
LAUGH?!

THEY'RE
THE ONES WHO
ARE THERE FOR YOU
WHEN YOU'RE IN
TROUBLE, NOT THE
ONES WHO JUST ACT
NICE AROUND
YOU.

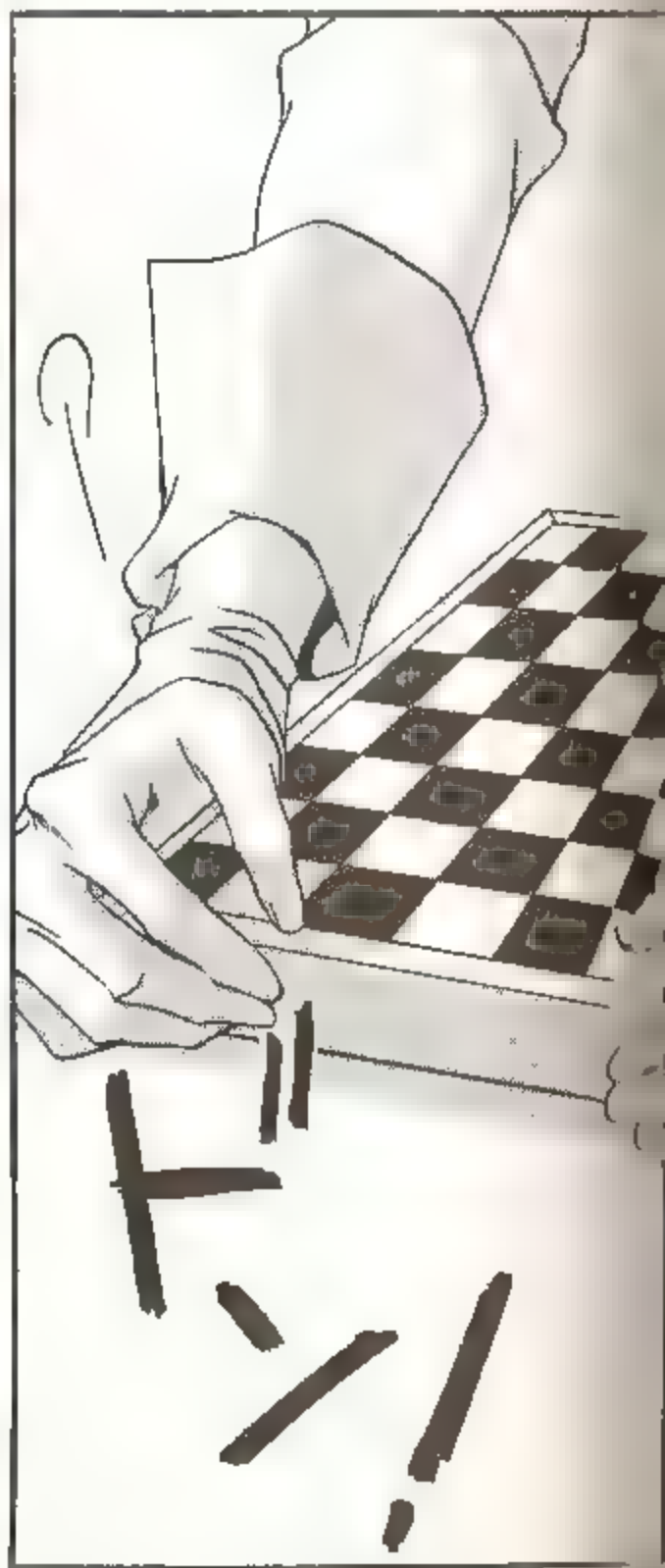
I THINK
THE
PEOPLE
WHO ARE
TRULY
WORTH
TRUSTING
ARE LIKE
THAT.

I WONDER
HOW
YOU'RE
DOING...

RUNE...



WHAT
DO YOU
THINK
YOU'RE
DOING?



Village .?

I KNOW
A SPOT
WITH A
BETTER
VIEW.

I'VE SEEN THE
HOLY PLAY
BEFORE AT
THE VILLAGE
FESTIVAL,
BUT IT WAS
NOTHING
COMPARED
TO THIS!

THE SIZE
OF IT ALL IS
AMAZING! THE
STAGE THE
COSTUMES.

THEY
MUST'VE
TAKEN
FOREVER
TO MAKE!

THIS
WAY.

WOW!
WE'RE
SO
HIGH
UP!



I WILL NOT
LET YOU
DISRUPT THE
STUDENT
COUNCIL'S
PLAY, NO
MATTER
WHAT!



YOU'RE A
DANGER,
SO YOU
NEED TO
BE KEPT
AS FAR
AWAY
FROM
OTHERS
AS
POSSIBLE!

DON'T
THINK I
DID THIS
FOR YOU!

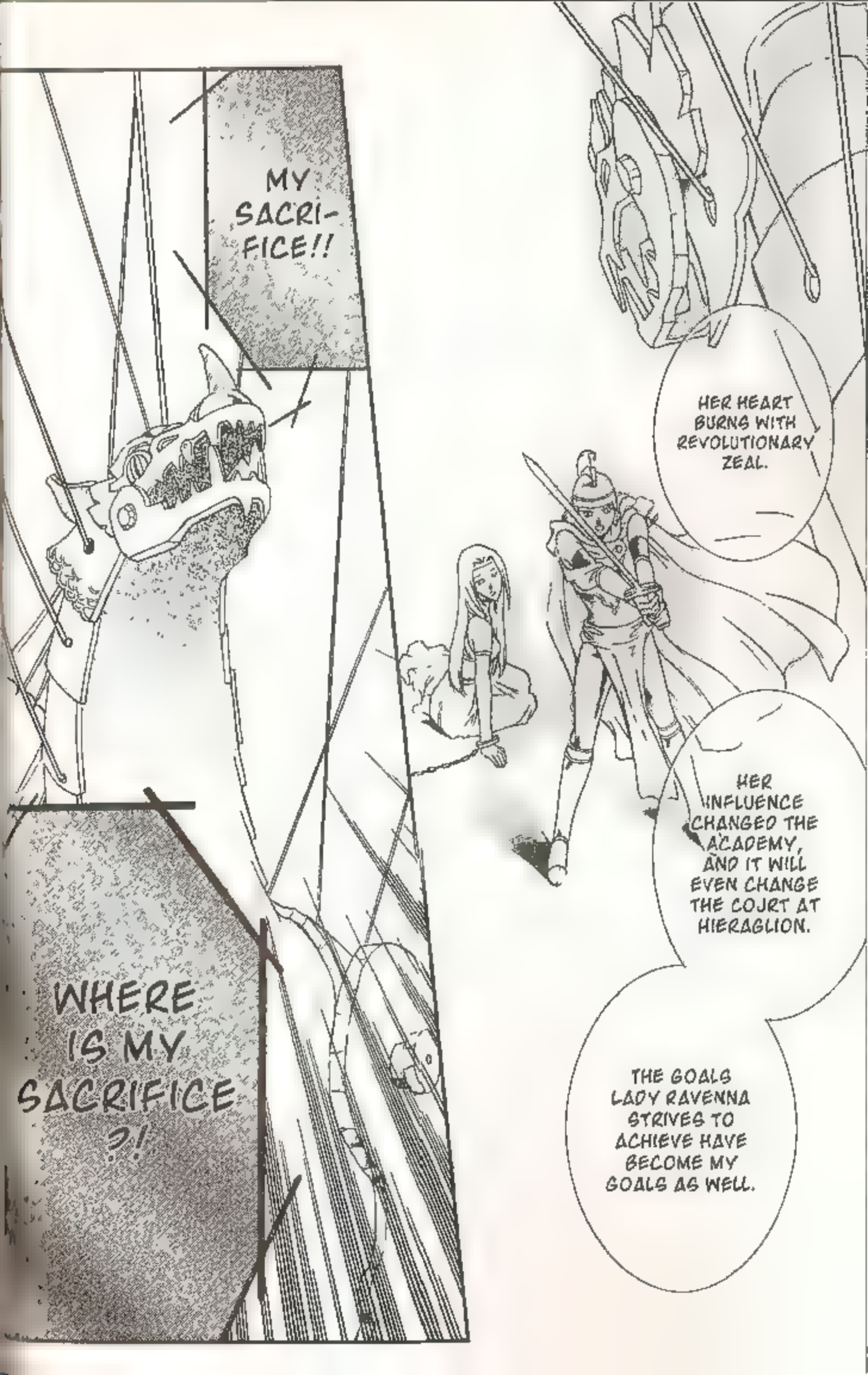


THIS IS A
WONDERFUL
PLACE TO
WATCH THE
PLAY!

THANK YOU,
ROSELITTE!



MY LOYALTY
BELONGS TO
LADY RAVENNA,
AND LADY
RAVENNA
ONLY!



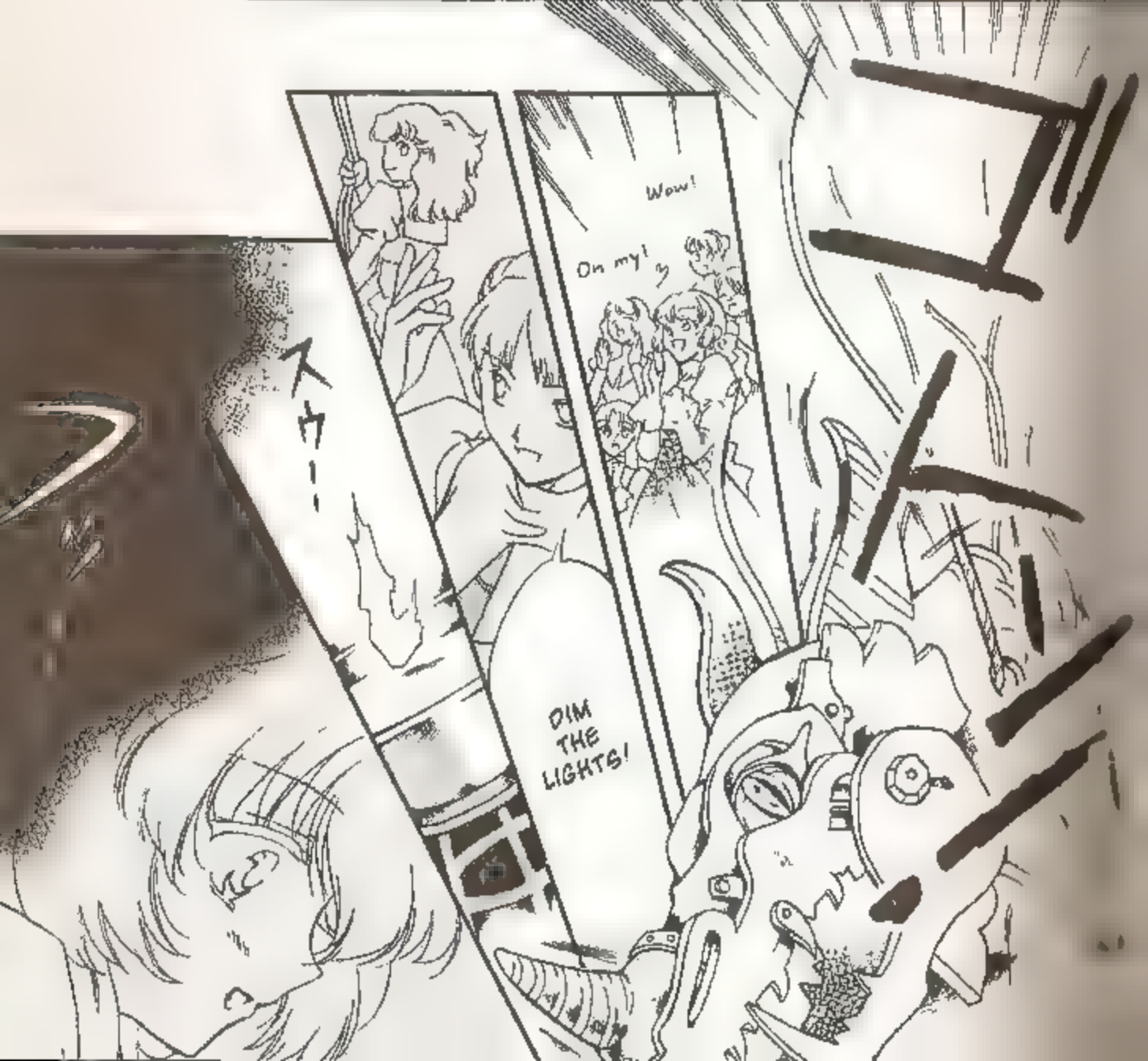
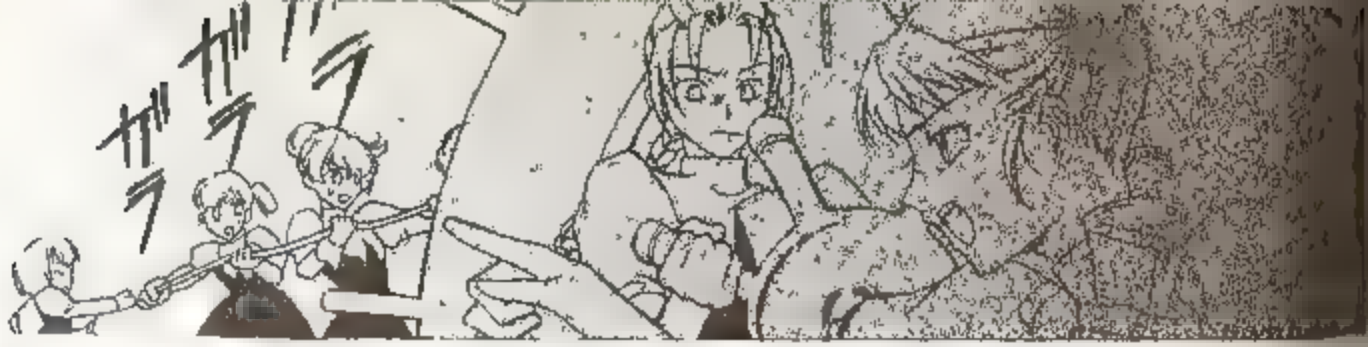
MY
SACRI-
FICE!!

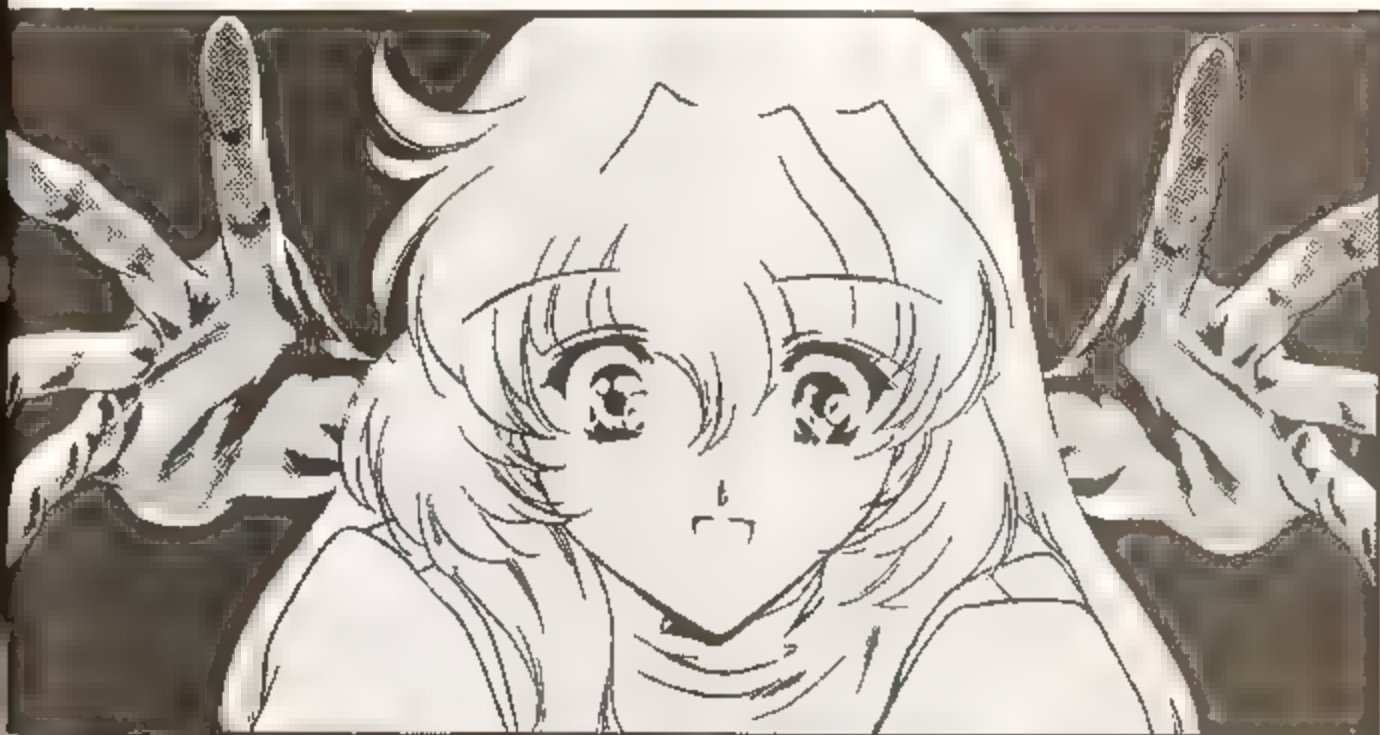
HER HEART
BURNS WITH
REVOLUTIONARY
ZEAL.

HER
INFLUENCE
CHANGED THE
ACADEMY,
AND IT WILL
EVEN CHANGE
THE COURT AT
HIERAGLION.

THE GOALS
LADY RAVENNA
STRIVES TO
ACHIEVE HAVE
BECOME MY
GOALS AS WELL.

WHERE
IS MY
SACRIFICE
?!







WHAT JUST
HAPPENED...?!

SOMEONE
JUST TRIED
TO SHOVE
ME OFF THE
PLATFORM. ?!



A
SACRIFICE!

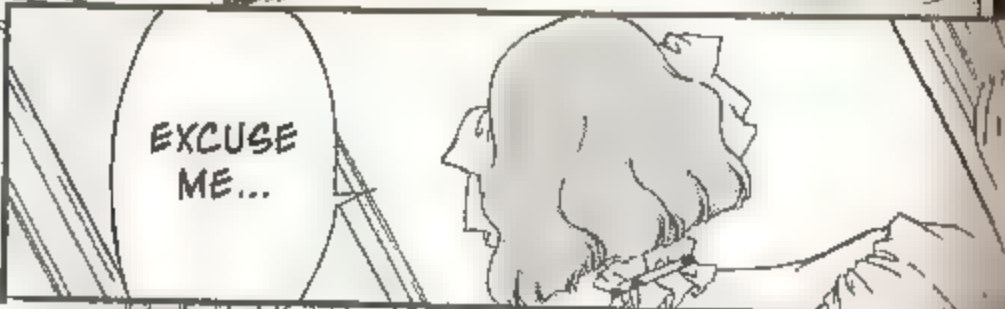
THERE'S
BEEN A
SACRIFICE!

ROSELITTE...!!

SOME-
BODY,
LIGHTS!

LIGHTS!

ONE OF US
HAS BEEN
SACRIFICED!!



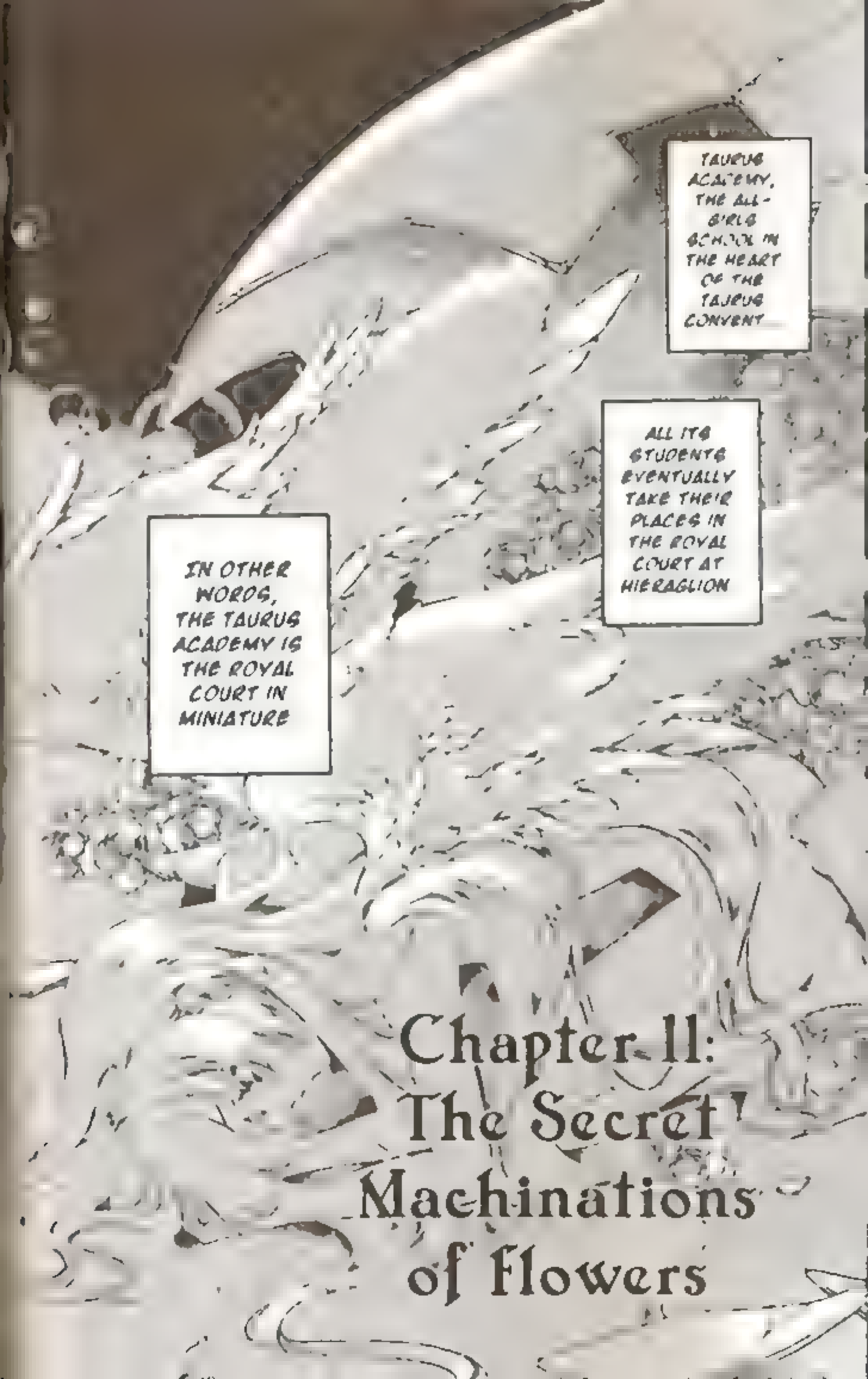
EXCUSE
ME...



LADY
ADALE...?



OH,
MY...!!



TAURUS
ACADEMY,
THE ALL-
GIRLS
SCHOOL IN
THE HEART
OF THE
TAURUS
CONVENT

ALL ITS
STUDENTS
EVENTUALLY
TAKE THEIR
PLACES IN
THE ROYAL
COURT AT
HIERAGLION

IN OTHER
WORDS,
THE TAURUS
ACADEMY IS
THE ROYAL
COURT IN
MINIATURE

Chapter 11: The Secret Machinations of Flowers



ARE YOU
ALLEGING THAT,
IN ATTEMPTING
TO KILL YOU,
ROSELITTE
INSTEAD FELL
TO HER OWN
DEATH?

SO,
MISS
FIRIEL

YOU CLAIM
THAT SOMEONE
ATTEMPTED
TO PUSH YOU
FROM THE
SCAFFOLDING,
YOU REACTED
TO DEFEND
YOURSELF, AND
IMMEDIATELY
THEREAFTER
ROSELITTE
FELL.

THE TAURUS
ACADEMY
JUDICIARY
COUNCIL

BUT I
THINK

...THERE WAS
SOME TIME
BETWEEN
MY GETTING
SHOVED AND
ROSELITTE'S
FALL

IT WAS
TOO DARK
FOR ME
TO SEE
ANYTHING

IT ALL
HAPPENED
SO
SUDDENLY
I JUST..
REACTED.



THE STUDENT
COUNCIL ALLEGES
THAT YOU PUSHED
ROSELITTE OFF THE
SCAFFOLDING.

ROSELITTE.

THEY
CLAIM A
DANGEROUS
SPY HAS
PERPETRATED
A HORRIBLE
CRIME.



THAT'S
RIDICU-
LOUS!



ME?
WHY
?!



THIS WHOLE
PLACE IS
RIDICULOUS!

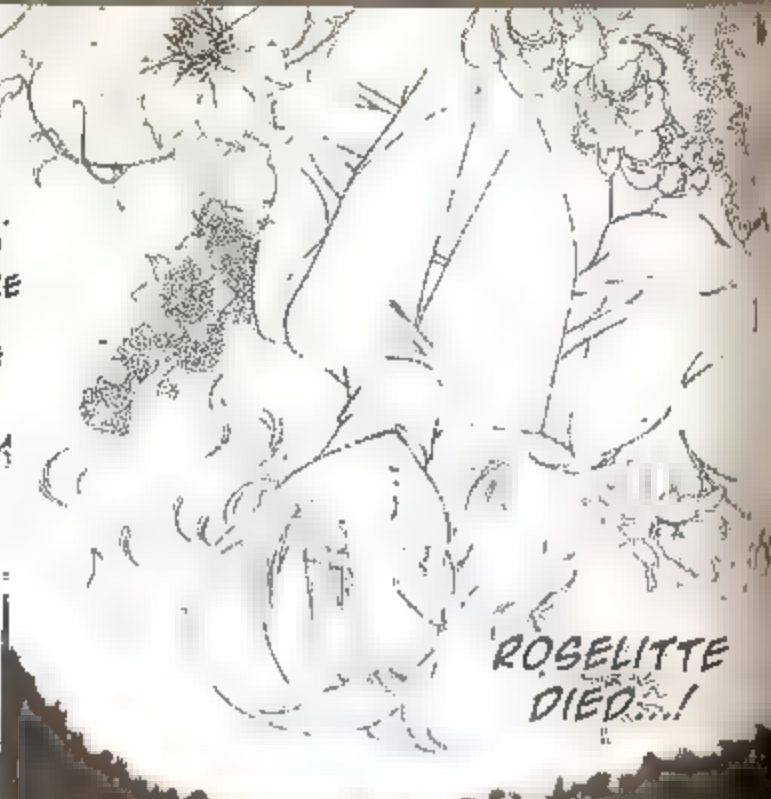
CALLING
PEOPLE
DOGS, SPIES,
SERVANTS ..
IT'S STUPID!
AND FOR THE
SAKE OF
THIS STUPID
POWER GAME,
ROSELITTE...!!



WHY
WOULD I
EVER WANT
TO KILL
ROSELITTE
?!



THIS IS
UNEXPECTED.
YOU LOOKED
MORE LIKE THE
PASSIVE-
AGGRESSIVE
TYPE.



ROSELITTE
DIED...!



HOW CAN
YOU FORM
AN OPINION
ABOUT
SOMEONE
YOU NEVER
LOOKED
STRAIGHT
IN THE
FACE?!

IN THE
MONTH
THAT I'VE
BEEN HERE,
EVERY
SINGLE ONE
OF YOU HAS
TURNED
YOUR BACK
THE SECOND
YOU SAW
ME!

LOOKING
AT ME
HOW?!
WHERE?!



HOWEVER,
IN ORDER
TO DO THAT,
EVERYONE HAD
TO PAY CLOSE
ATTENTION
TO YOU.

YES, EVERY
STUDENT
IN THIS
SCHOOL WAS
ADVISED TO
AVOID YOU

I SEE
YOU DON'T
UNDERSTAN



MA'AM!
THERE'S
NEWS!
TWO NEW
STUDENTS
JUST
TRANSFERRED
INTO THE
FIFTH-YEAR
CLASS!

WHAT
ARE
THE
LIKE?

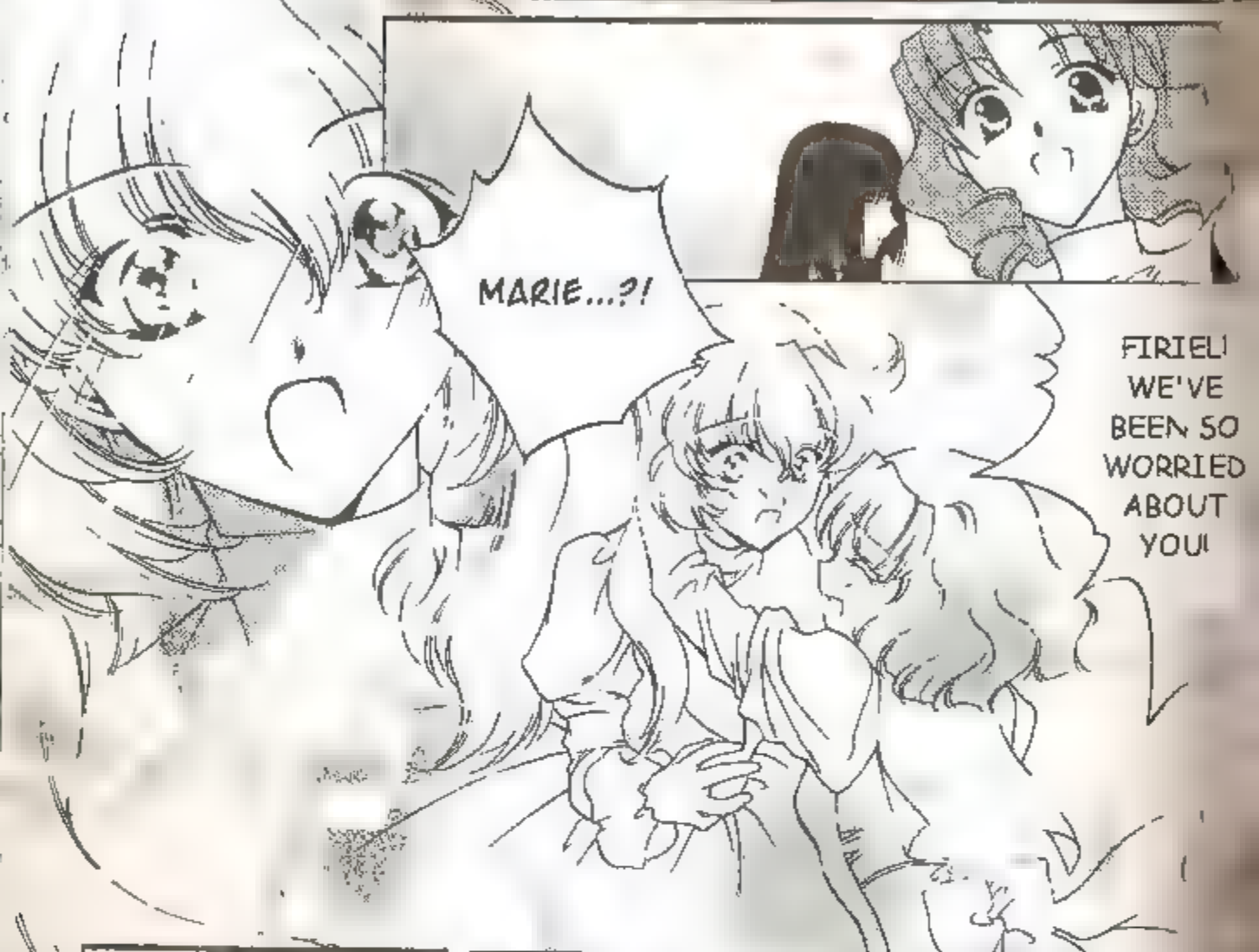
MORE
TRANSFERS?
AT THIS
POINT IN THE
SEMESTER?

ONE OF
THEM IS A
CHESTNUT-
HAired
GIRL...

...AND SHE
KEEPS
ASKING FOR
FIRIEL!

THE
MYSTERIOUS
TRANSFER
STUDENT
WITH THE
BEAUTIFUL
RED HAIR...

IT IS VERY
RARE THAT THE
ACADEMY SEES
SOMEONE AS
CONSPICUOUS
AS YOU.



THIS IS
RUNETTE.

DON'T
ACT TOO
SURPRISED,
OKAY?

SOME-
BODY
ELSE
CAME
WITH
ME

ARE YOU
MISS VINCENT,
PRESIDENT
OF THE
LITERATURE
CLUB?

I HAVE
BEEN
ASKED TO
DELIVER A
PACKAGE
TO YOU

TO
ME...?

WHAT
?!

UNBELIEVABLE
THIS IS A NOVEL
BY EVANGELINE
HANDWRITTEN,
EVEN!

AND IT'S
A BRAND
NEW
STORY!

NO
WAY!



HOWEVER,
HER TRUE
NAME,
AGE AND
RANK
ARE ALL
SHROUDED
IN
MYSTERY

EVANGELINE
IS THE PEN
NAME OF
THE SINGLE
MOST
POPULAR
AUTHOR
IN ALL OF
GRAAL.

WHO IS
EVANGE-
LINE...?



HER
NOVELLAS
GENERALLY
FIRST APPEAR
AT THE ROYAL
COURT IN
HIERASLION.



ABOUT HALF
A YEAR LATER,
COPIES FINALLY
FILTER DOWN TO
THE GENERAL
POPULACE.



SO THIS
EVANGE-
LINE.

...IS
REALLY
ADALE...?

...BUT
NOW I
KNOW
SHE'S
REALLY
NOT!
SHE'S
A MUCH
MORE
DEEP AND
COMPLEX
WOMAN.

I MEAN,
AT FIRST
GLANCE,
LADY ADALE
LOOKS LIKE
ANY OTHER
PRINCESS...

YES! I
WAS SO
SHOCKED
WHEN I
FOUND
OUT!

THAT WAS
THE BIGGEST
SURPRISE OF
ALL! I NEVER
KNEW YOU WERE
SUCH A GRAND
PERSONAGE.

fangirl Marie

AND HER
LADYSHIP'S
COUSIN
AND ALSO
GRANDDAUGHTER
TO QUEEN
ASTRAEA
HERSELF IS NOTHING
OTHER THAN
YOU, FIERIE!

IT WOULD
BE SO
NICE IF
THIS WAS
JUST A BAD
DREAM.

FIERIE







WE'RE SO
SORRY FOR
WHAT WE
DID! PLEASE
FORGIVE
US!

SISTER
FRIEL!

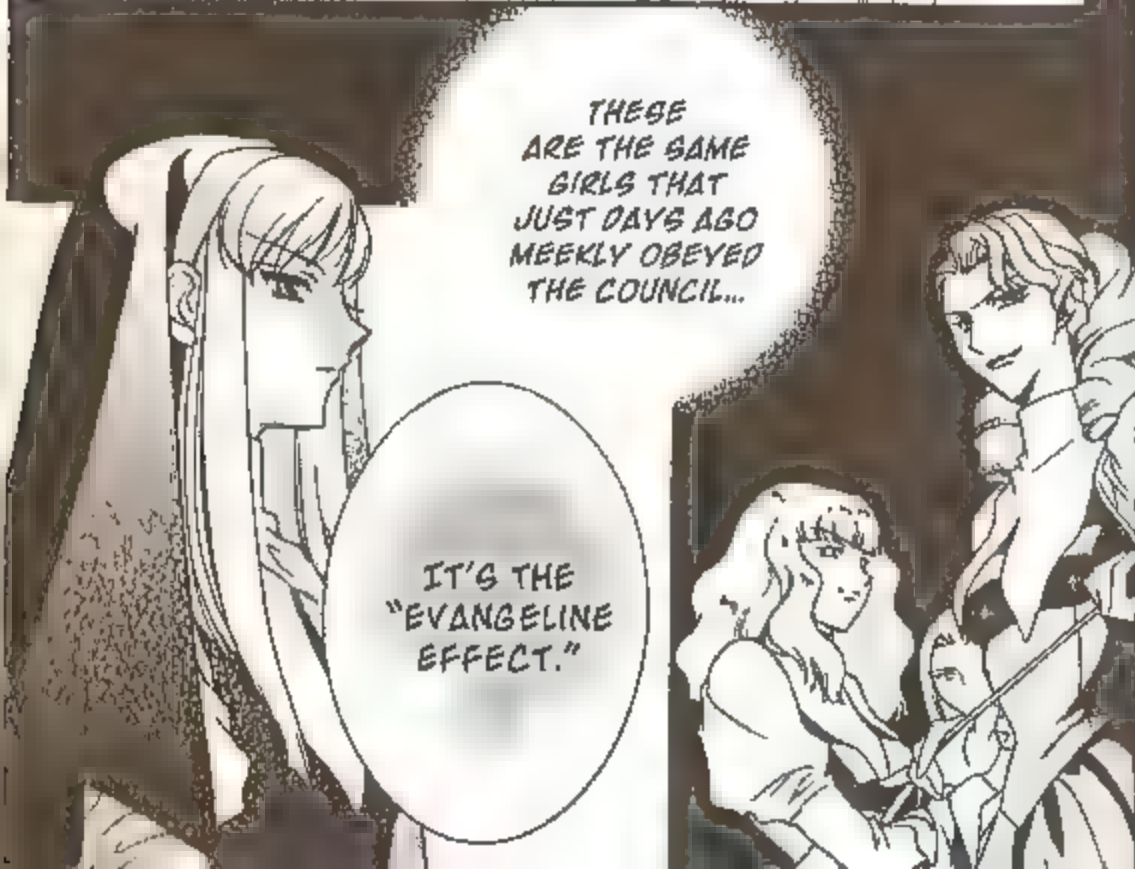
WE NEVER
KNEW YOU
WERE A
FRIEND OF
EVANGELINE'S!

とっさ!

I THOUGHT
HE BURNED
THE
EPHEMERIS
THAT
NIGHT..

...BUT...

WHAT
IF HE



THESE
ARE THE SAME
GIRLS THAT
JUST DAYS AGO
MEEKLY OBEYED
THE COUNCIL...

IT'S THE
"EVANGELINE
EFFECT."

"TO MY
BEAUTIFUL
SPRING
BREEZE, MY
DEAREST
FRIEND,
FIRIEL."

EVA
WAS THE
PRESIDENT
OF THE
LITERATURE
CLUB.

AND THE
STAR OF
THE ENTIRE
ACADEMY.

HERE,
SEE? ON THE
FIRST PAGE
OF EVA'S
MANUSCRIPT

...SHE
DEDICATES
THIS STORY
TO YOU.

IF SHE
WERE
STILL
HERE, SHE
WOULD
NEVER
ALLOW
THOSE
SHALLOW
TWISTED
STUDENT
COUNCIL
GIRLS TO
STRUT
AROUND
AS IF THEY
OWNED
EVERY-
THING!



THIS IS
EVA'S
MESSAGE
TO ME...

SHE HASN'T
FORGOTTEN
ABOUT US
HERE. SHE
HASN'T
OVERLOOKED
WHAT HAS
HAPPENED
SINCE SHE
LEFT...!



I
LIKE
TO
THINK
GO.

EVANGELINE

VINCENT

WERE YOU
FRIENDS WITH
ADA--I MEAN,
EVANGELINE?



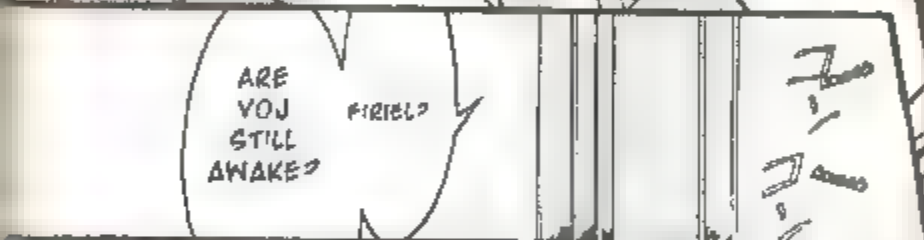
YOU WILL BE
THE FRESH
WIND THAT
BLOWS AWAY
THE DARK
CLOUDS
THAT HAVE
GATHERED
OVER THE
ACADEMY

EVANGELINE
CALLED
FIRIEL A
"SPRING
BREEZE."

EVERY FAN OF
EVA'S WRITING
AND ALL WHO
SUPPORT HER
CAUSE WILL BE
FIRMLY BEHIND
YOU, FIRIEL.



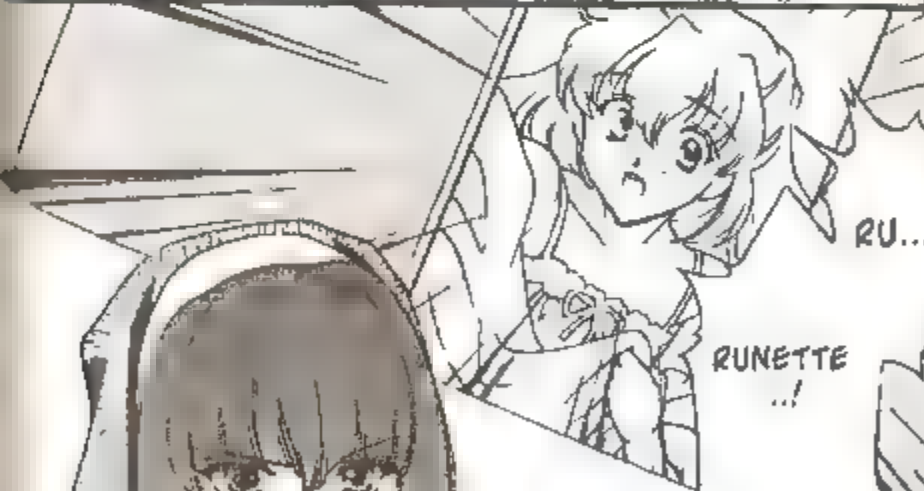
EVERYTHING
HAS GOTTEN
SO WEIRD...



ARE
YOU
STILL
AWAKE?

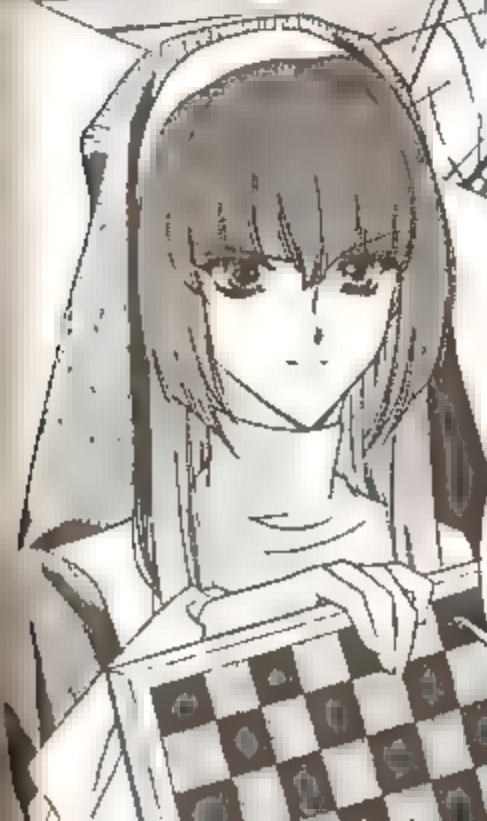
FIREBL?

フ
ン
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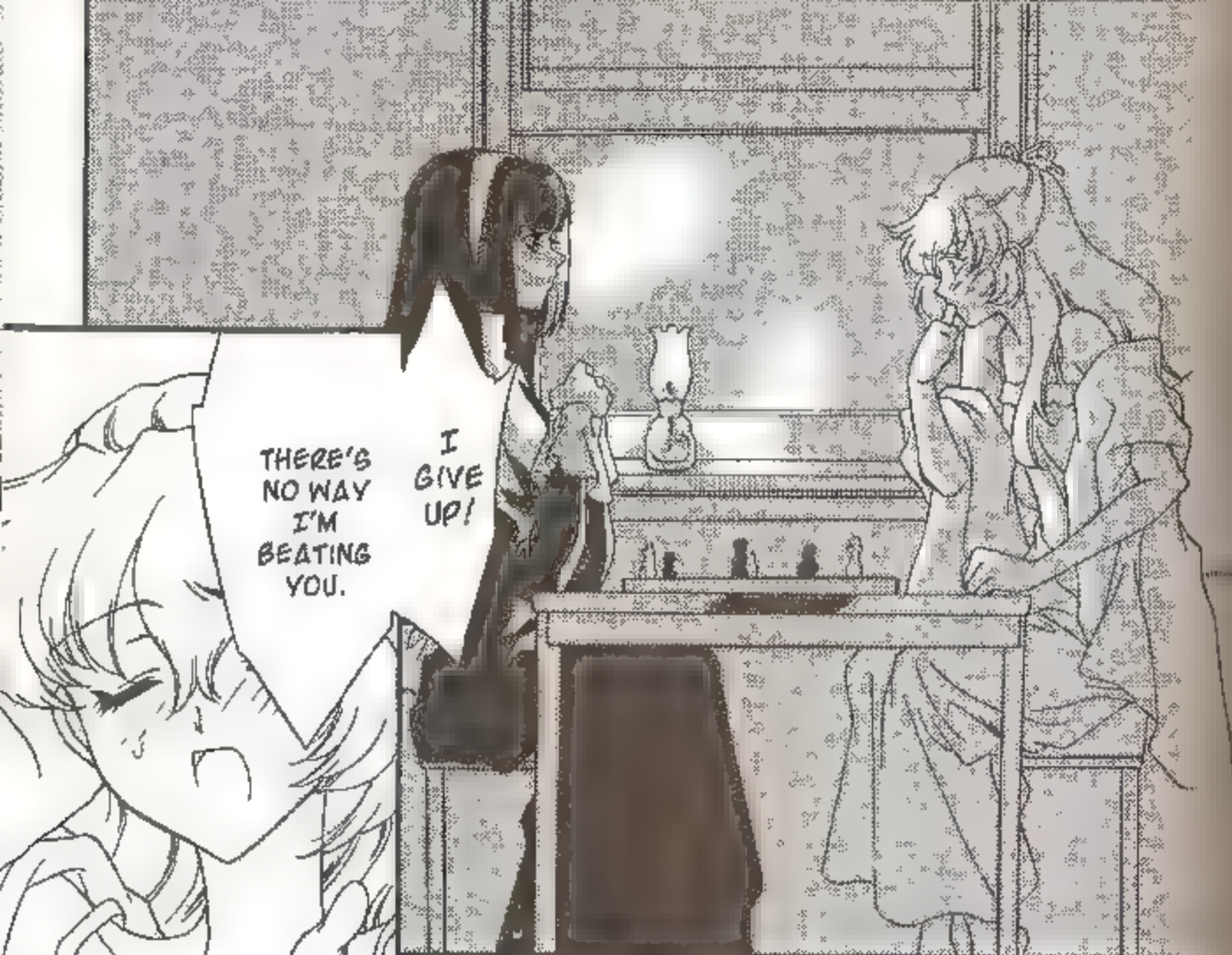
RU...

RUNETTE
...!



LET'S
PLAY
CHESS.





THERE'S
NO WAY
I'M
BEATING
YOU.

I
GIVE
UP!

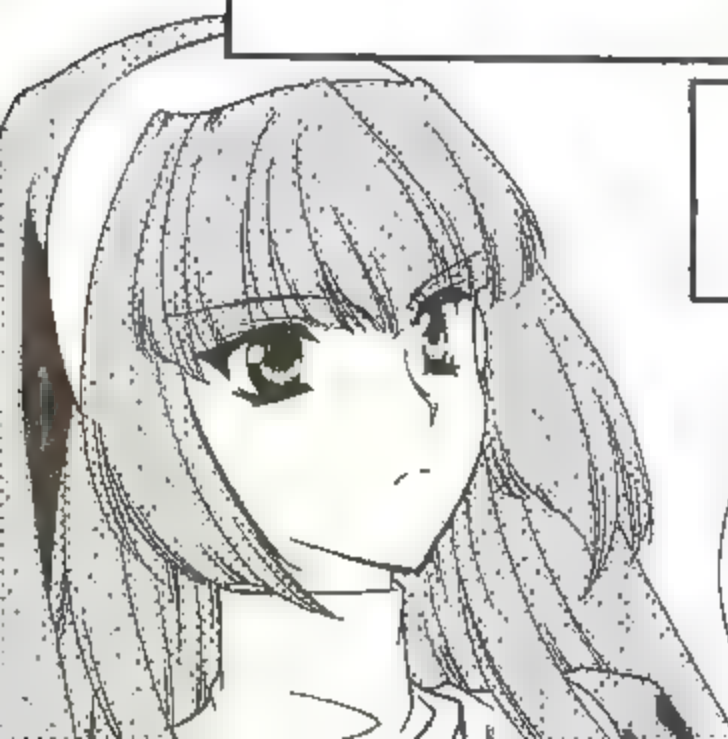


A BET
THAT
I
WON.

YES.

SHE SAID
YOU AND
LORD EUSIS
MADE A
BET.

MARIE
TOLD
ME
WHAT
YOU
DID



YOU HAD TO
KNOW YOU WERE
GOING TO BE
ATTACKED, BUT
YOU STILL MADE
LORD EUSIS TAKE
YOU UP THERE!

YOU'RE
SUCH AN
IDIOT,
YOU KNOW
THAT?

YOU HAD TO
KNOW, BECAUSE
THE EPHEMERIS IS
STILL THERE! YOU
TAKED BURNING
IT AND JUST HID
IT SOMEWHERE
THAT NIGHT!
IT'S OBVIOUS!

I DIDN'T
KNOW WE
WERE GOING
TO BE
ATTACKED.

THAT'S
A LIE!

IF YOU
COULDN'T HANDLE
COMPLICATED
REASONING AND
STRATEGY YOU'D
NEVER BE ANY
GOOD AT IT

HOPE
FOR
YOU AT
CHESS.

WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN BY
THAT?

I HAD THOUGHT
LETTING YOU GO
TO HIERABLION
WAS A
DANGEROUS
AND STUPID
IDEA.

YOU
KNOW...

SEEING RUNE
LIKE THIS,
ALL DRESSED
UP IN GIRLS'
CLOTHES,
YOU WOULDN'T
THINK SO,
BUT HE'S
ACTUALLY
BEAUTIFUL.

FIRIEL.

IT
SEEMS
THERE
IS SOME
HOPE
FOR YOU
YET.

HEH...

カ
タ
ン

YOU GIVE
YOURSELF
TOO
LITTLE
CREDIT.

THIS IS
PROBABLY THE
PROFESSOR'S
FAULT. AND
MINE.

THE
PROFESSOR
ONLY EVER
KEPT ME BY
HIS SIDE.

THAT YOU MAY
BE A FAR MORE
CAPABLE AND
COMPETENT
PERSON THAN
YOU THINK
YOU ARE

BUT I'VE
COME TO
THINK...



SOME-
DAY..

...THE
POWER
BURIED
DEEP
INSIDE
YOU...

...RACE
FOR
THE
WIDE-
OPEN
SKY.

...WILL
FINALLY
FIND ITS
WAY OUT
AND, LIKE A
BIRD FREED
FROM ITS
CAGE...

FIRIEL,
THIS IS
INCREDIBLE!
I CAN'T
BELIEVE
IT!

YOU'RE
ACTUALLY
KEEPING
UP WITH
ALL THESE
HARD
CLASSES.



YOU MAY HAVE
TALKED ABOUT WEIRD
THINGS LIKE PUMPKIN
COACHES AND STUFF
SOMETIMES, BUT
WHEN IT COMES
DOWN TO IT,
YOU'RE
ACTUALLY
PRETTY
SMART,
FIRIEL.

WELL, IT'S
NOT LIKE
I HAD
ANYTHING
ELSE TO
DO BUT
STUDY.

Everybody
totally
ignored
me and
all...

Oh, and
your
answer
to #6 is
wrong

I MEAN,
RUNE IS
OBVIOUSLY
A GENIUS.

HE BEAT
LORD
EUSIS AT
CHESS...

...AFTER
TWO
WEEKS!
LORD
EUSIS!

YOU NEED
TO PICK
SOMEONE
ELSE TO
COMPARE
YOURSELF
TO

NO! REALLY

RUNE
JUST HAS
TO READ
A BOOK
AND HE'S
MEMORIZED
IT

IF
THERE'S
ANYTHING
I'M GOOD
AT, IT'S...

SINCE I
WAS SO
BAD AT
MATH, THE
PROFESSOR
WOULDN'T
HAVE
ANYTHING
TO DO
WITH ME.

I'D
ALWAYS
THOUGHT
I WAS
USELESS
AND
STUPID.

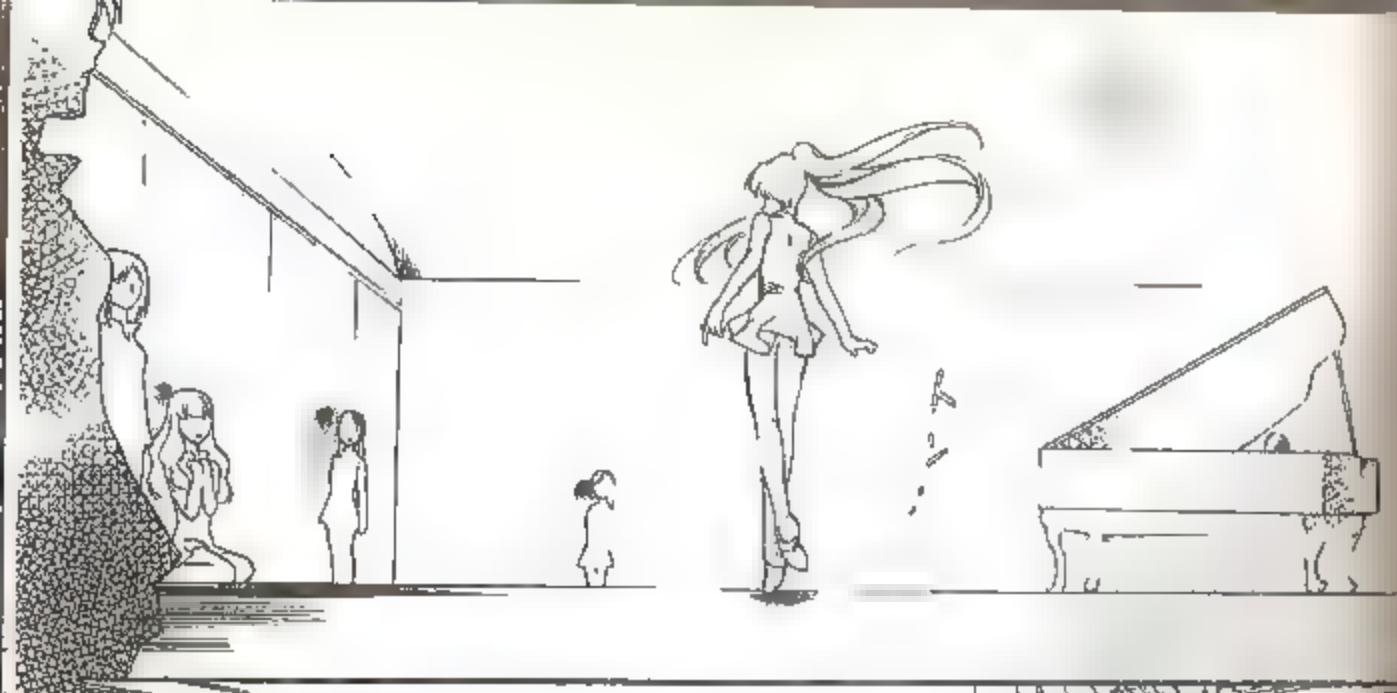
FIND
SOMEONE
ELSE TO
COMPARE
MYSELF
TO.



FOLLOW
THE
MUSIC..!

AND
JUMP!





THAT WAS
SO GOR-
GEOUS!

HOW DID
YOU LEARN
TO JUMP
SO HIGH?

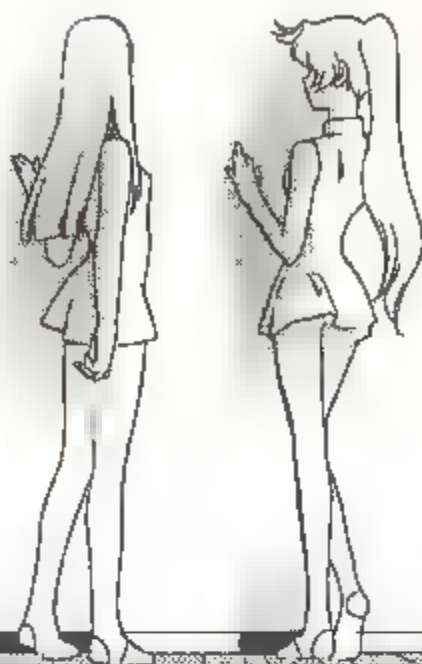
THAT
PLAN JUST
MAY WORK,
MADAM
PRESIDENT.

EVANGELINE
BELIEVES
IN FIRIEL'S
POTENTIAL

WITH
HER HELPING
US, IT JUST
MIGHT BE
POSSIBLE...!

YES
...!





THIS
MIRROR
IS SO
BIG.

THEY
COVER THE
WALLS AND
CEILINGS
OF EVERY
HALL AND
CORRIDOR

IT'S SAID
THEIR
REFLECTIONS
CAUSE SUCH
CONFUSION
THAT NEW
COURTIERS
OFTEN GET
LOST.

THERE
ARE EVEN
MORE THAN
THIS AT
HIERAGLION.

AND THERE'S
NOT JUST ONE,
BUT A WHOLE WALL
OF THEM. MIRRORS
ARE SO EXPENSIVE,
THIS MANY MUST
BE WORTH A
FORTUNE.

WHY
WOULD ANYONE
WANT TO PUT
UP THAT MANY
MIRRORS?

BACK AT
HOME, IN THE
VILLAGE SCHOOL,
THERE WAS
ONLY ONE SMALL
ONE HANGING
ON THE WALL.

BUT, WITH
YOUR OWN
IMAGE
AROUND...

...YOU CAN
ALWAYS
TAKE A
CLOSE
LOOK AT
YOURSELF

AND
DETERMINE
EXACTLY WHAT
YOU CAN AND
CANNOT DO.
EVERYTHING
STEMS FROM
A STRONG
KNOWLEDGE
OF WHO YOU
YOURSELF
ARE

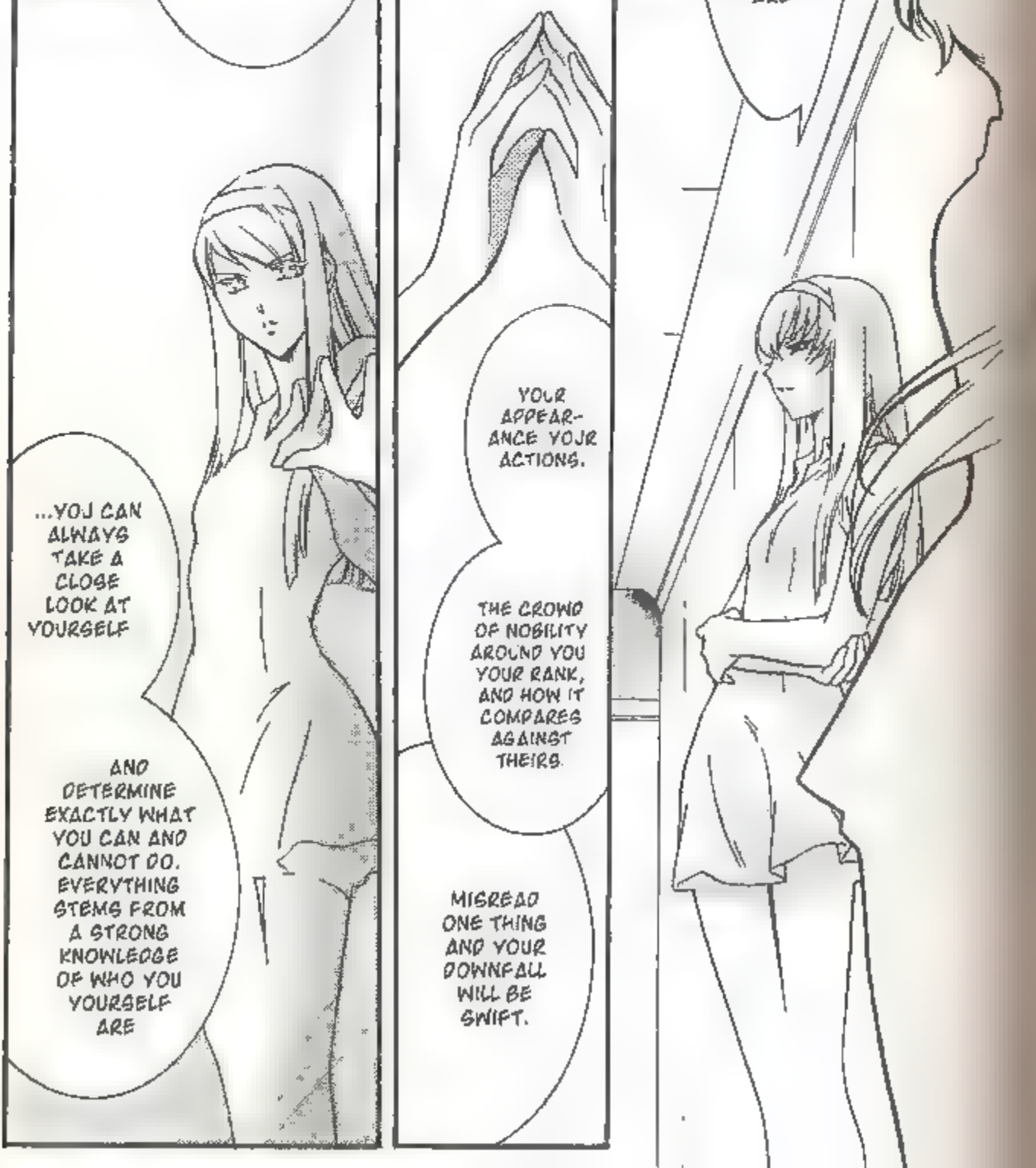
THOSE WHO
CANNOT
DO SO
FIND ONLY
A SHORT,
UNPLEASANT
FATE
AWAITING
THEM AT
COURT.

YOUR
APPEAR-
ANCE YOUR
ACTIONS.

THE CROWD
OF NOBILITY
AROUND YOU
YOUR RANK,
AND HOW IT
COMPARES
AGAINST
THEIRS.

MISREAD
ONE THING
AND YOUR
DOWNFALL
WILL BE
SWIFT.

I'M NOT
SURE.
PERHAPS IT
IS SO THAT
NO MATTER
WHERE
YOU LOOK,
YOU CAN
ALWAYS SEE
YOURSELF
SO THAT
YOU CAN
KEEP A FIRM
GRASP ON
PRECISELY
WHO YOU
ARE





TAKE
A LOOK
IN THIS
MIRROR.



WHAT
DO YOU
SEE?

YOU
CAN SEE
THE SELF-
CONFIDENCE
IN YOUR
EYES

WELL,
YOU'RE
REALLY
MATURE
AND INTEL-
LIGENT

YOU'RE
FAR MORE
BEAUTIFUL
THAN ME,
VINCENT

I
MEAN IT!
YOU HAVE
REALLY
PRETTY BLUE
EYES!

OH? WHY
DO YOU
SAY
THAT?

BUT, IF
I LOOK
BEAUTIFUL
TO YOU

IT IS ONLY
BECAUSE
I KNOW
MYSELF
SO WELL

THANK
YOU.



YOU,
HOWEVER,
ARE NOT YET
THAT FAMILIAR
WITH WHO YOU
REALLY ARE.



YOUR
POSTURE
&
PERFECT.

ARE YOU
AWARE
OF HOW
BRILLIANTLY
YOUR HAIR
SHINES IN
THE LIGHT?

EVERY
MOVEMENT
YOU MAKE
HAS A
LIVELY
SPRING
TO IT

WHILE ALL
OF US MAY BE
DANCING THE
SAME STEPS,
DO YOU KNOW
HOW MANY EYES
ARE IMMEDIATELY
DRAWN TO YOU
AND ONLY YOU?

WHAT I AM
ATTEMPTING
TO SAY,
FIRIEL...



IT IS NOT
A KIND NOR
FORGIVING
PLACE BY
ANY STRETCH
OF THE
IMAGINATION

...IS THAT
THERE IS AN
UNFATHOMABLE
AMOUNT
OF POWER
DORMANT
WITHIN YOU.

SHE MAY
HAVE
POWER..

FOR YOU TO
DIVE INTO
THE ROYAL
COURT AS
DEFENSELESS
AS YOU
ARE NOW IS
UNTHINKABLE.
IT IS
ENTIRELY TOO
DANGEROUS
FOR YOU.

YET YOU
HAVE
NO IDEA
HOW TO
USE THAT
POWER.

...BUT IT IS
RAW AND
UNTESTED.

YOU
ENROLLED
HERE
AT THE
ACADEMY

WHICH
MEANS YOU
ULTIMATELY
WISH TO
FIND A
POSITION IN
MIRABLION,
CORRECT?

IF YOU DO
NOT KNOW HOW
TO PROTECT
YOURSELF THERE
YOU WILL LOSE
EVERYTHING
PRECIOUS
TO YOU.



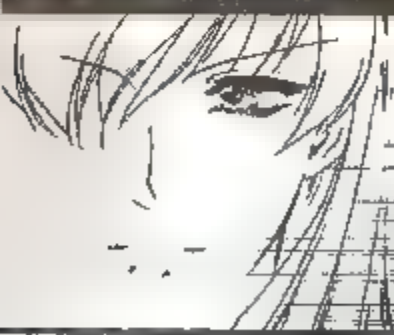
YES.

YOU DON'T
WANT THAT
TO HAPPEN.
CORRECT?

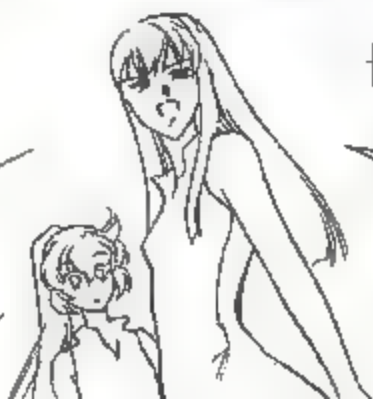
I
NEVER...

.. WANT
TO LOSE
ANYONE
IMPORTANT
TO ME EVER
AGAIN!

THAT'S
WHY I
CAME
TO THE
ACADEMY
IN THE
FIRST
PLACE!



IGRAINE!



WELL,
THEN

...PLEASE
ALLOW
ME TO
ASSIST
YOU.

A manga panel featuring three characters. On the left, two young women with long hair are looking towards the right. The woman in the foreground has long, light-colored hair and a headband. The woman behind her has shorter, darker hair. On the right, a young man with short, light-colored hair is looking down at a sword he is holding. The sword has a dark hilt and a long, thin blade. The background is plain white.

THIS IS
IGRAINE.
SHE'S A
FOURTH-
YEAR
STUDENT,
ONE YEAR
YOUNGER
THAN US

Wow
she's
tal

IGRAINE
FIRIEL
HAS
NEVER
USED A
SWORD
BEFORE

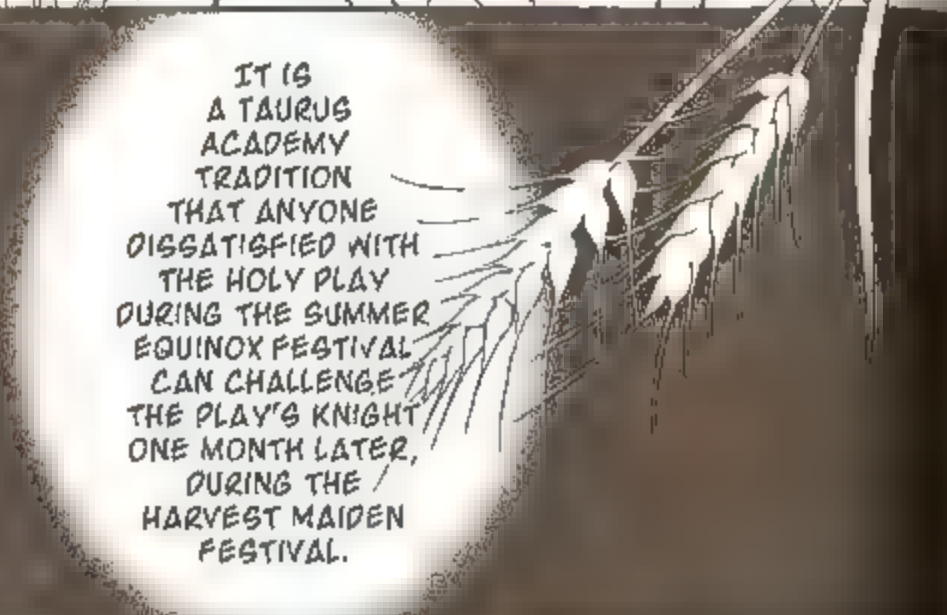
TEACH
HER FROM
THE VERY
BEGINNING,
OKAY?

IT IS A
PLEASURE.



THIS
YEAR'S HOLY
PLAY WAS
INTERRUPTED
AND NEVER
FINISHED,
REMEMBER?

SWORDS
?!

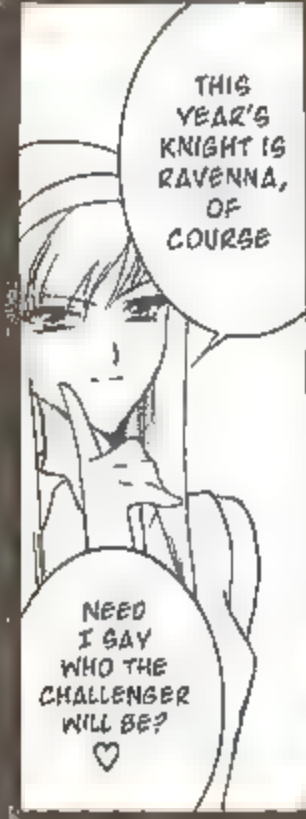


IT IS
A TAURUS
ACADEMY
TRADITION
THAT ANYONE
DISSATISFIED WITH
THE HOLY PLAY
DURING THE SUMMER
EQUINOX FESTIVAL
CAN CHALLENGE
THE PLAY'S KNIGHT
ONE MONTH LATER,
DURING THE
HARVEST MAIDEN
FESTIVAL.



THERE'S NO
WAY I COULD
CHALLENGE
HER!!

THIS IS
A GAME,
PIRIEL--
REMEMBER?



THIS
YEAR'S
KNIGHT IS
RAVENNA,
OF
COURSE

NEED
I SAY
WHO THE
CHALLENGER
WILL BE?



YES,
TO A
SWORD
DUEL.

YOU
DON'T
MEAN

"CHAL-
LENGE"



YOU
EVEN
SAID
IT
YOUR-
SELF

THE
SEGREGATED
RULE OF THE
STUDENT
COUNCIL IS
NOTHING
MORE THAN
A "STUPID
POWER
GAME."

WE WILL
AWAKEN
THAT POWER
SLEEPING
INSIDE YOU,
FIRIEL, AND
SHOW YOU
HOW TO USE
IT TO THE
FULLEST.

IN THE END,
WE WILL BE THE
WINNERS OF THIS
LITTLE POPULARITY
CONTEST.

WELL,
IF THE
STUDENT
COUNCIL
WANTS TO
USE ITS
INFLUENCE
TO MAKE
THE
ACADEMY
THEIR
PLAYTHING

...THEN WE
SHALL JUST
HAVE TO USE
OUR OWN
TALENTS TO
TAKE IT BACK
FROM THEM
AND RESTORE
THE ACADEMY
TO ITS PAST
FREEDOM.

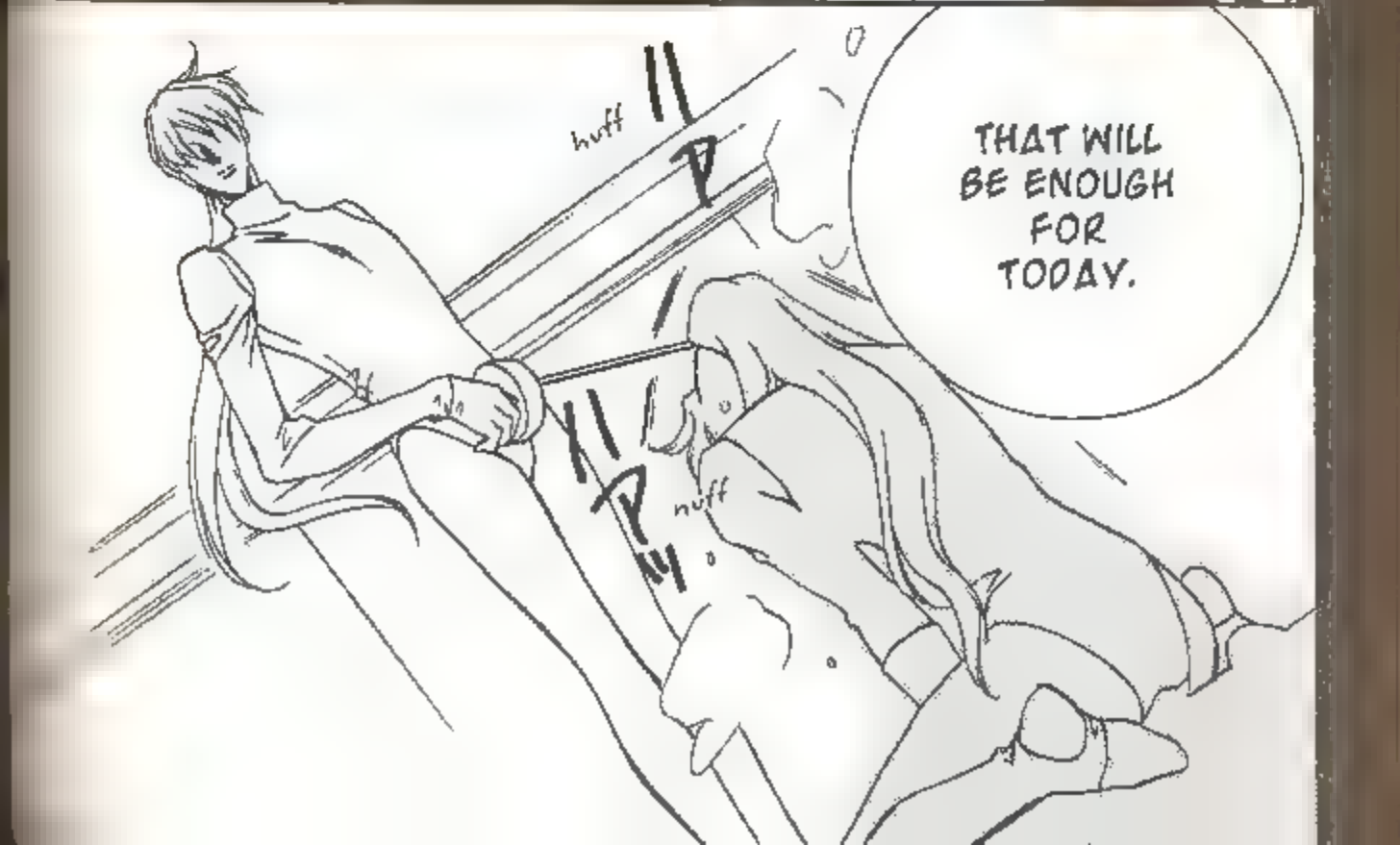
Chapter 12: The Hidden Garden



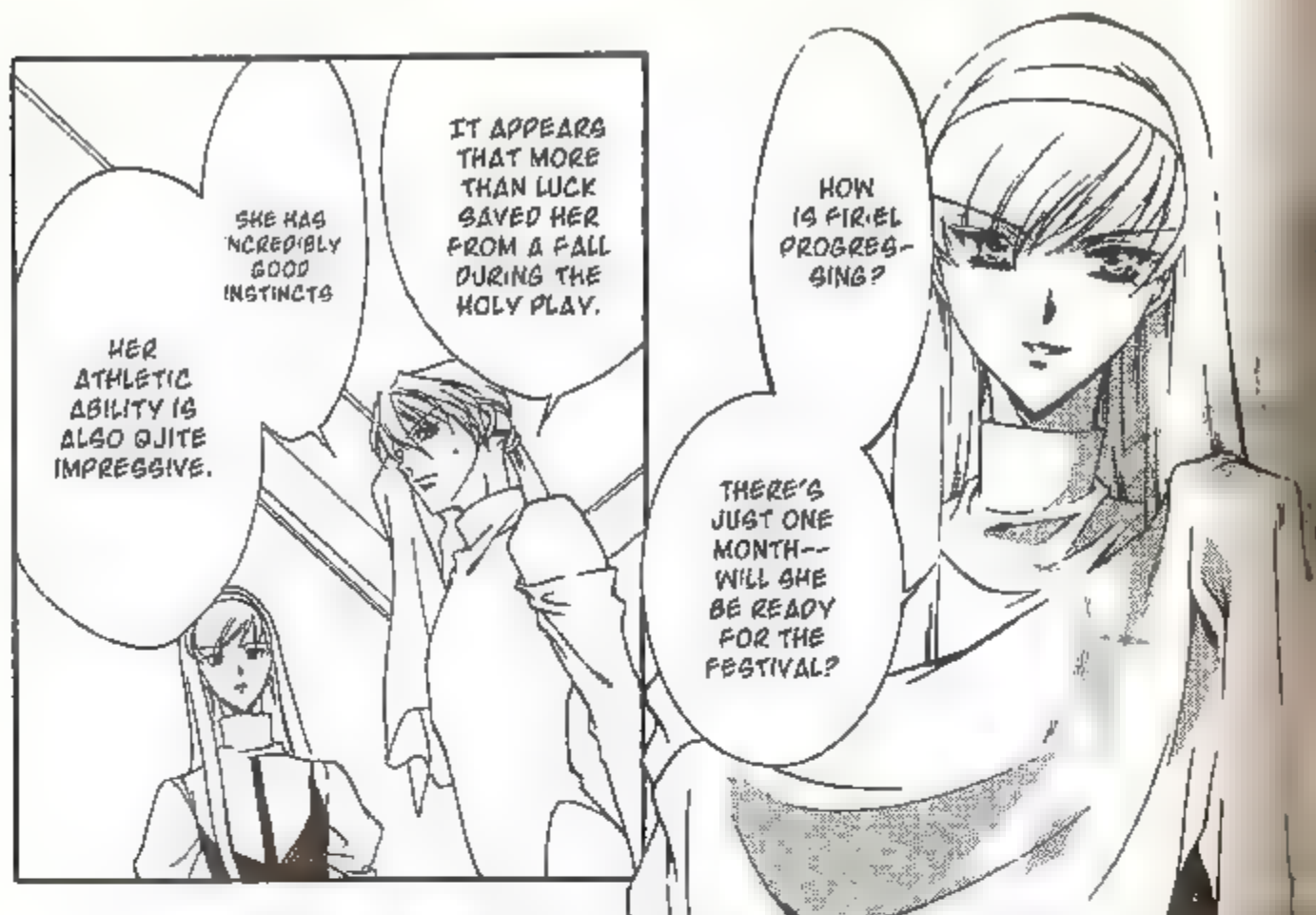


THERE'S
TOO MUCH
HESITATION
IN YOUR
ATTACKS!

LUNGE IN
WITHOUT
FLINCHING ...!



THAT WILL
BE ENOUGH
FOR
TODAY.



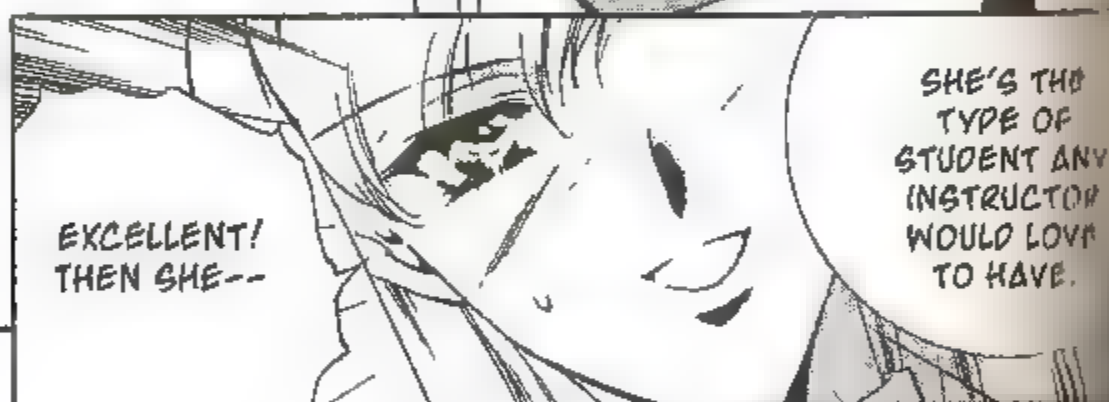
HER
ATHLETIC
ABILITY IS
ALSO QUITE
IMPRESSIVE.

SHE HAS
INCREDIBLY
GOOD
INSTINCTS

IT APPEARS
THAT MORE
THAN LUCK
SAVED HER
FROM A FALL
DURING THE
HOLY PLAY.

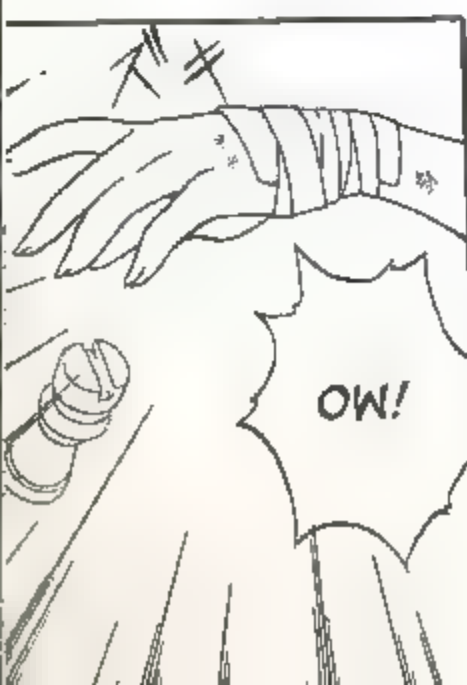
HOW
IS FIRIEL
PROGRES-
SING?

THERE'S
JUST ONE
MONTH--
WILL SHE
BE READY
FOR THE
FESTIVAL?

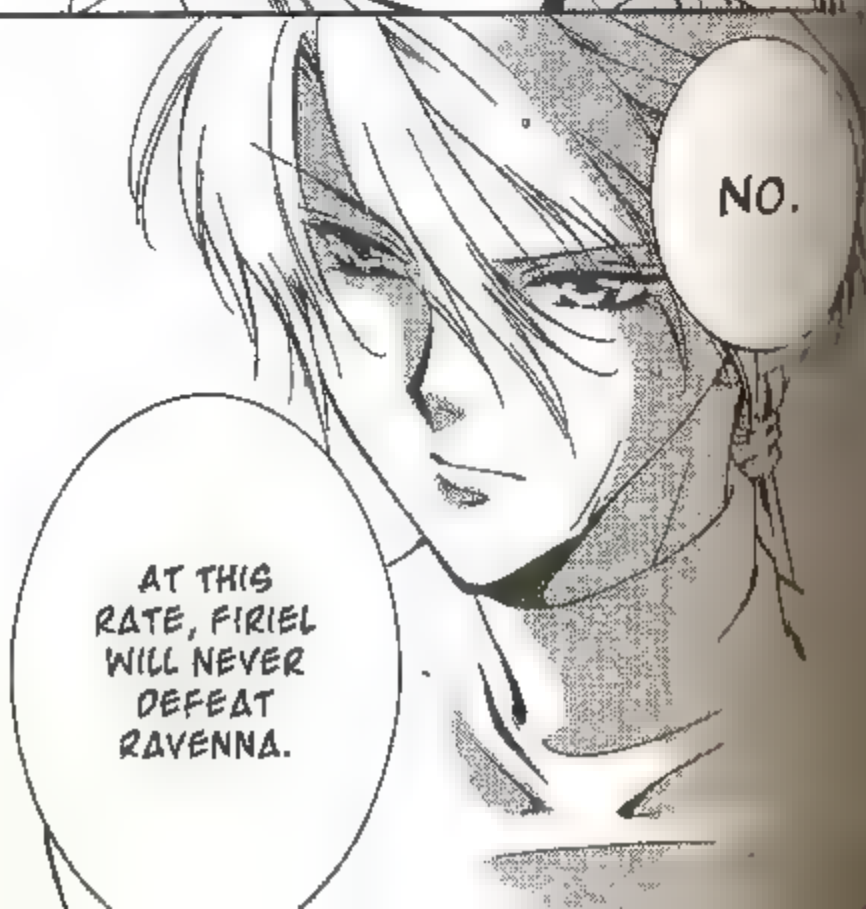


EXCELLENT!
THEN SHE--

SHE'S THE
TYPE OF
STUDENT ANY
INSTRUCTOR
WOULD LOVE
TO HAVE.



OW!



NO.

AT THIS
RATE, FIRIEL
WILL NEVER
DEFEAT
RAVENNA.



IF YOU
REMAIN AS
YOU ARE,
YOU WILL
EVENTUALLY
LOSE
EVERYTHING
YOU HOLD
DEAR.

TAKE UP THE
SWORD, AND
I KNOW YOU
WILL SHINE
BRILLIANTLY.

YOU'RE
COVERED
WITH
BRUISES!

WHATEVER
POSSESSED
YOU TO
ACCEPT
THEIR
OFFER,
FRIEL?



"WE WILL
AWAKEN
THE POWER
SLEEPING
WITHIN YOU."

I'VE
GOT TO
LEARN IT TO
BE ABLE TO
PROTECT
MY LOVED
ONES.

I'M
FINE

YES,
FIRIEL.

WHAT
YOU ARE
MISSING IS AN
UNRELENTING
DESIRE TO
WIN.

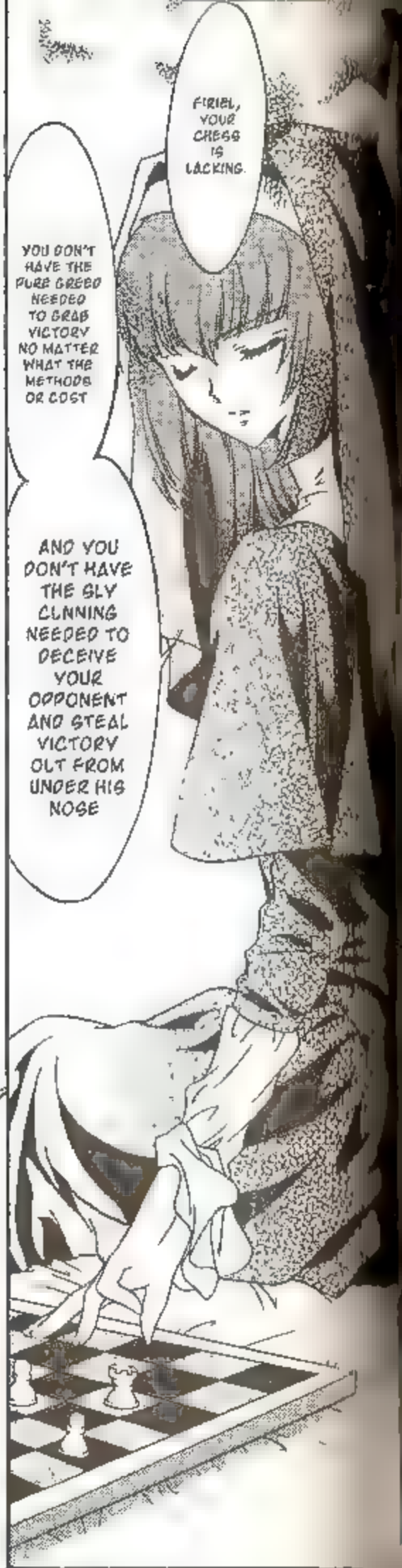
LET US
CALL
IT THE
"FIGHTING
SPIRIT."

THESE ARE
THINGS YOU
MUST HAVE
IF YOU'RE
GOING TO
SURVIVE AT
HIERAGLION.

FIRIEL,
YOUR
CHESS
IS
LACKING.

YOU DON'T
HAVE THE
PURE GREED
NEEDED
TO GRAB
VICTORY
NO MATTER
WHAT THE
METHODS
OR COST

AND YOU
DON'T HAVE
THE SLY
CUNNING
NEEDED TO
DECEIVE
YOUR
OPPONENT
AND STEAL
VICTORY
OUT FROM
UNDER HIS
NOSE



HER BURNING
DESIRE TO
WIN SWEEPS
THROUGH THE
ACADEMY
LIKE A
WILDFIRE.

RAVENNA
IS THE
FIGHTING
SPIRIT
MADE
FLESH.

SHE DOESN'T CARE
WHO GETS SACRIFICED
AS LONG AS SHE
MOVES CLOSER TO
HER GOAL....!

WHAT A
USELESS
ENDEAVOR.

SO
SOMEONE
HAS BEEN
TEACHING
DOGS TO
WIELD
SWORDS.

WHAT A
SURPRISE,
IGRAINE.

YOU
LOST THE
CHARISMA
GAME TO
ME ONCE..



...WHEN
ROSELITTE
CHOSE ME
OVER YOU.



IGRAINE
KNEW
ROSELITTE?



AND
DON'T
THINK
I WILL
EVER
FORGIVE
YOU!!

THERE
WILL BE
ONLY ONE
WINNER
AFTER THE
FESTIVAL.
ME AND
THROUGH
ME, THE
STUDENT
COUNCIL.

Ah...
Ira...
Ha...
Ha...



THAT IS
YOUR FAULT,
IGRAINE YOU
JUST DIDN'T
HAVE ENOUGH
INFLUENCE TO
BRING HER
BACK TO YOU

TAKING A
WEAK LITTLE
GIRL AND
FOISTING HER
ONSTAGE
IN FRONT
OF ME NOW
ISN'T GOING
TO CHANGE
ANYTHING.

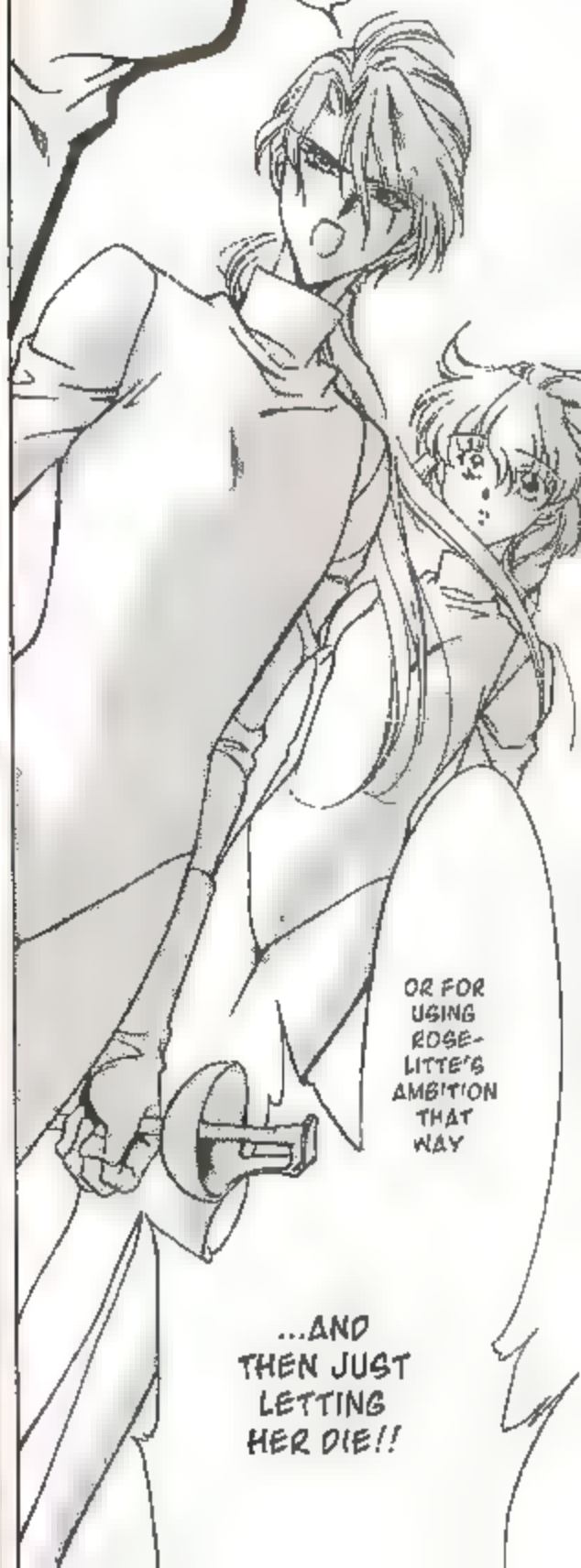
IGRAINE...

IGRAINE,
WERE
YOU
CLOSE TO
ROSELITTE?



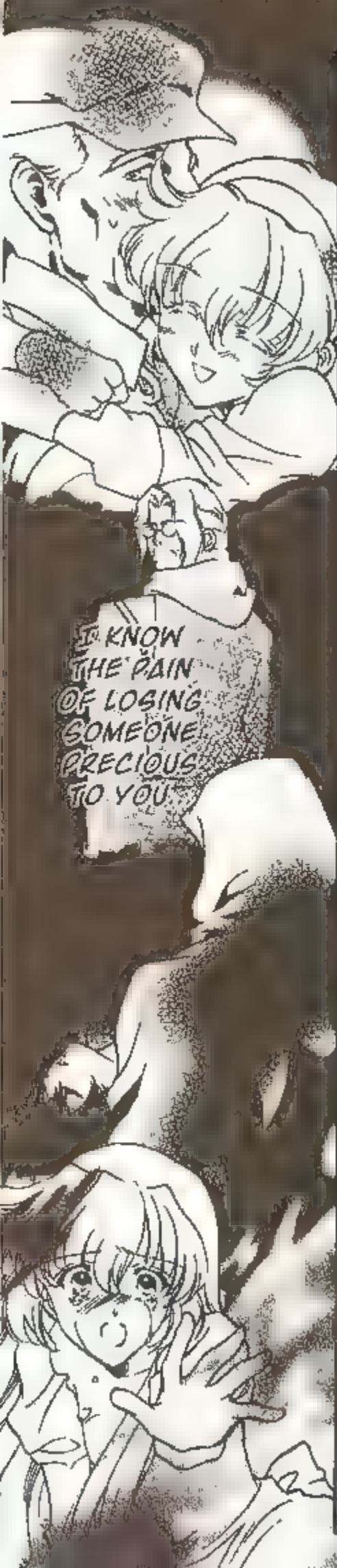
NOT
FOR.

THE
STUDENT
COUNCIL'S
WAY OF
ELIMINATING
ANYONE
WHO DARES
OBSERVE
WITH THEM!



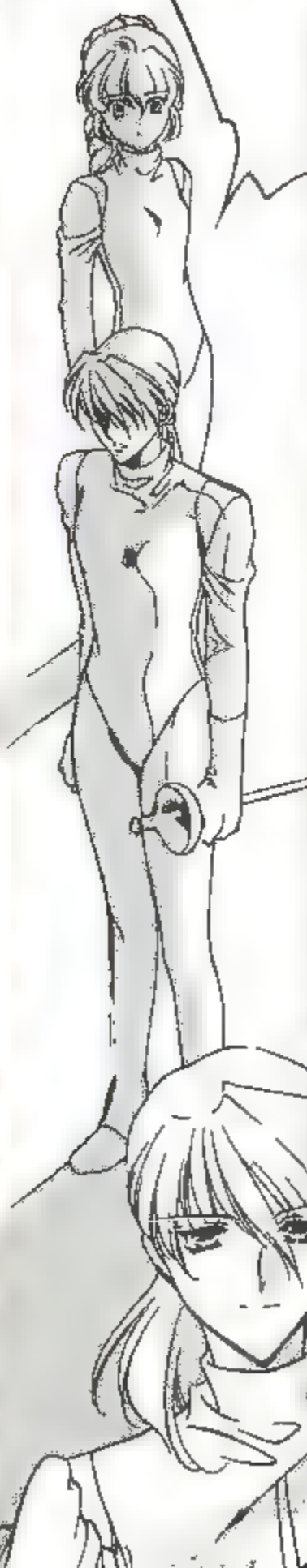
OR FOR
USING
ROSE-
LITTE'S
AMBITION
THAT
WAY

...AND
THEN JUST
LETTING
HER DIE!!



I KNOW
THE PAIN
OF LOSING
SOMEONE
PRECIOUS
TO YOU

I HAD HOPED
TO WIN HER
BACK BEFORE
SOMETHING
BAD
HAPPENED..!



WE WERE
ALWAYS
TOGETHER,
SINCE THE
DAY WE BOTH
ARRIVED HERE





IGRAINE,
TRAIN ME!

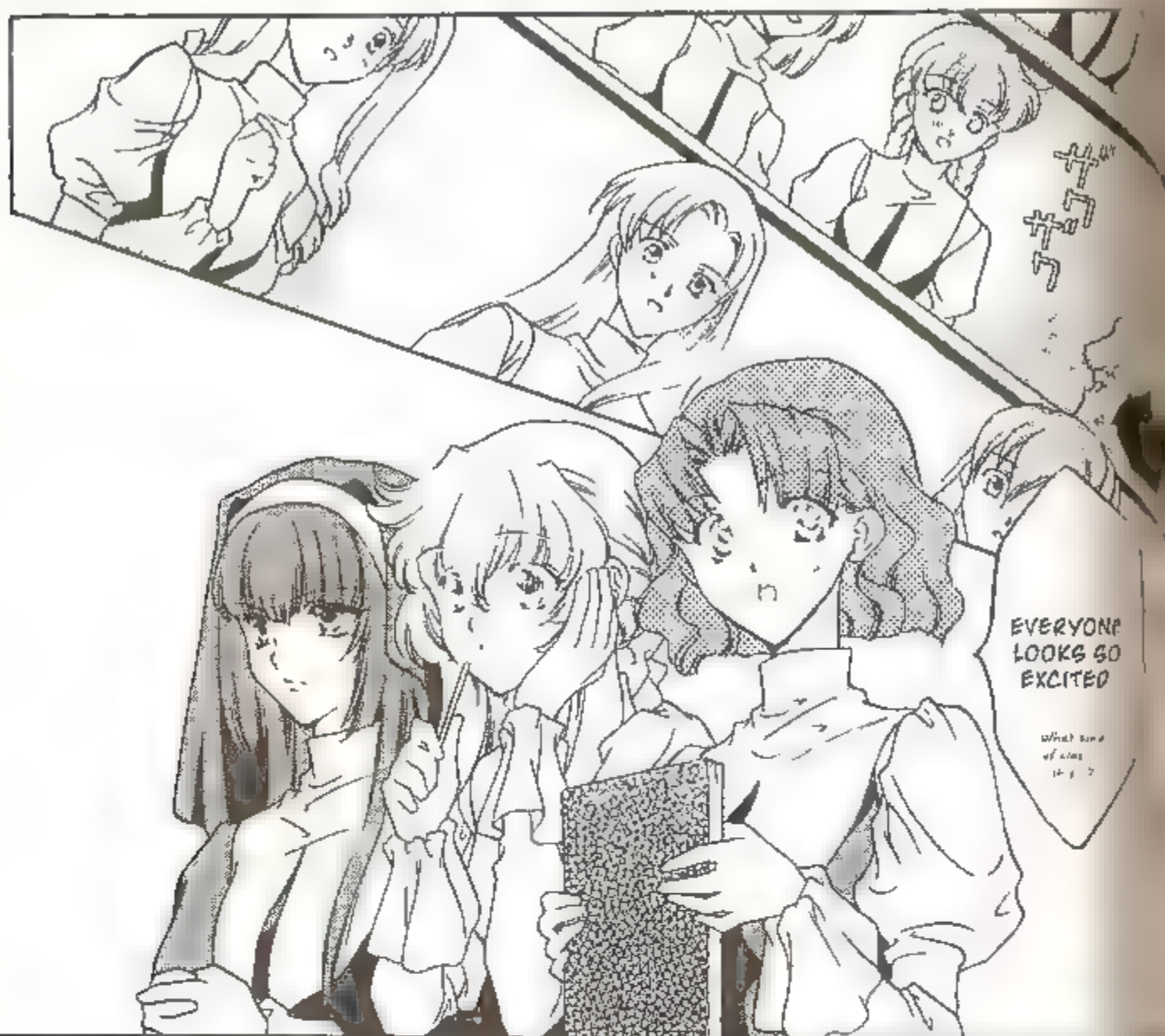


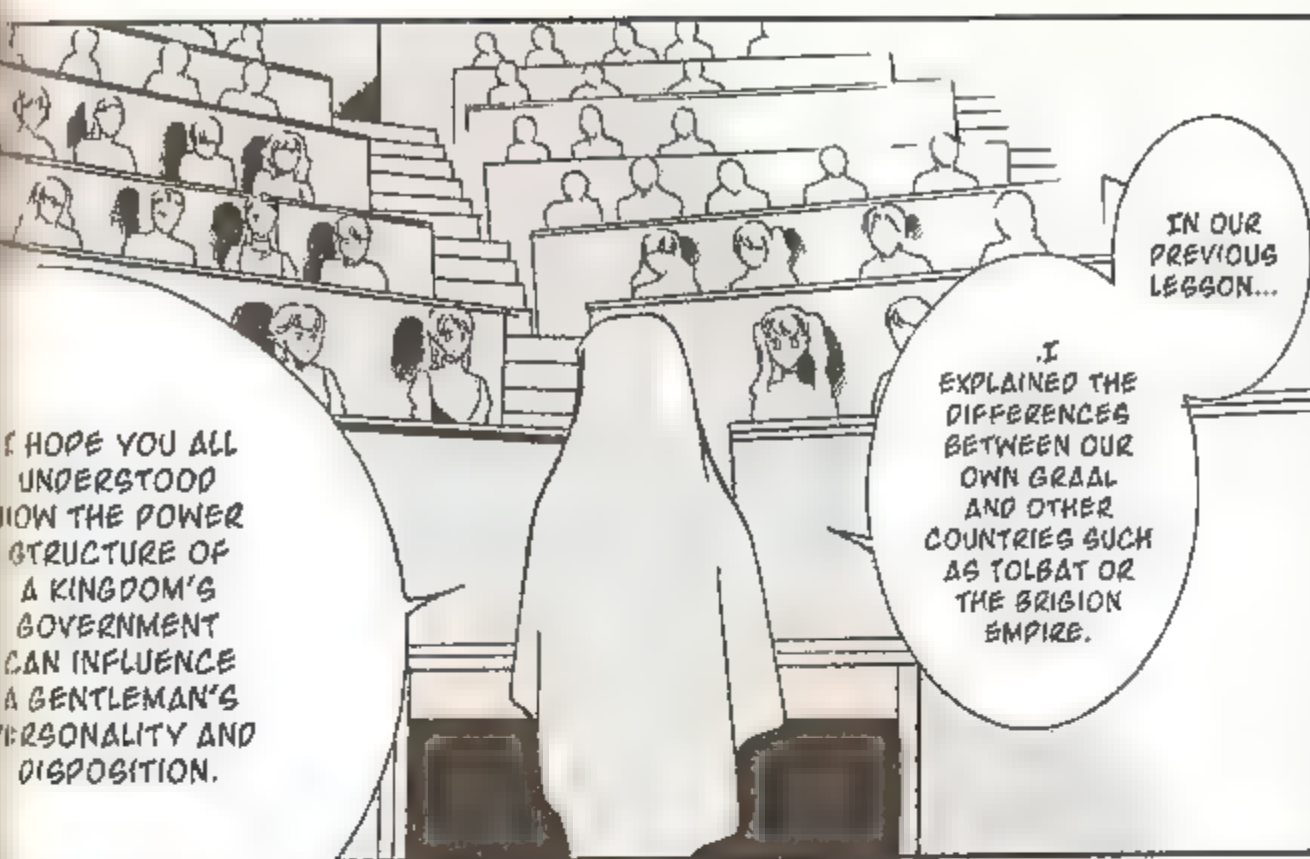
I WANT
TO DO
EVERYTHING
I CAN--FOR
HER SAKE!



I LIKED
ROSELITTE
A LOT,
TOO.

SHE HAD
VERY CLEAR,
DETERMINED
EYES.





I HOPE YOU ALL UNDERSTOOD HOW THE POWER STRUCTURE OF A KINGDOM'S GOVERNMENT CAN INFLUENCE A GENTLEMAN'S PERSONALITY AND DISPOSITION.

IN OUR PREVIOUS LESSON...

I EXPLAINED THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN OUR OWN GRAAL AND OTHER COUNTRIES SUCH AS TOLBAT OR THE BRIGION EMPIRE.



...? IS THIS A HISTORY CLASS, MAYBE?

TODAY'S LESSON WILL EXPAND ON THAT POINT. I WILL TEACH YOU SEVERAL POSSIBLE MEANS OF APPROACHING DIFFERENT TYPES OF GENTLEMEN



HER VOICE HASN'T A SHADE OF INFLECTION. SHE LOOKS YOUNG, BUT SHE'S ABOUT AS LIVELY AS A STATUE.



IN EASTERN COUNTRIES, SUCH AS THE BRIGION EMPIRE, MANY GENTLEMEN DESIRE TO DOMINATE.

Gulp ..

I WILL BEGIN
OUR NEXT
LESSON BY
EXPLAINING
THE PROPER
DOSAGES
FOR VARIOUS
SITUATIONS.

...WHILE
ALLOWING
YOU TO
SUBTLY
INTRODUCE
THE IDEA OF
AN AFFAIR.

IN SUCH
SITUATIONS,
USE OF AN
APHRODISIAC IS
AN EFFECTIVE
TACTIC IT MAKES
IT SIMPLER TO
MAINTAIN THE
ILLUSION THAT
THE GENTLEMAN
IS THE ONE IN
CONTROL



.. HANDLE
FOREIGN
AFFAIRS
AND STUFF
THROUGH
SEDUCTION?

BUT...
UM DOES
THAT
MEAN
THAT ALL
NOBLE
LADIES..
UH

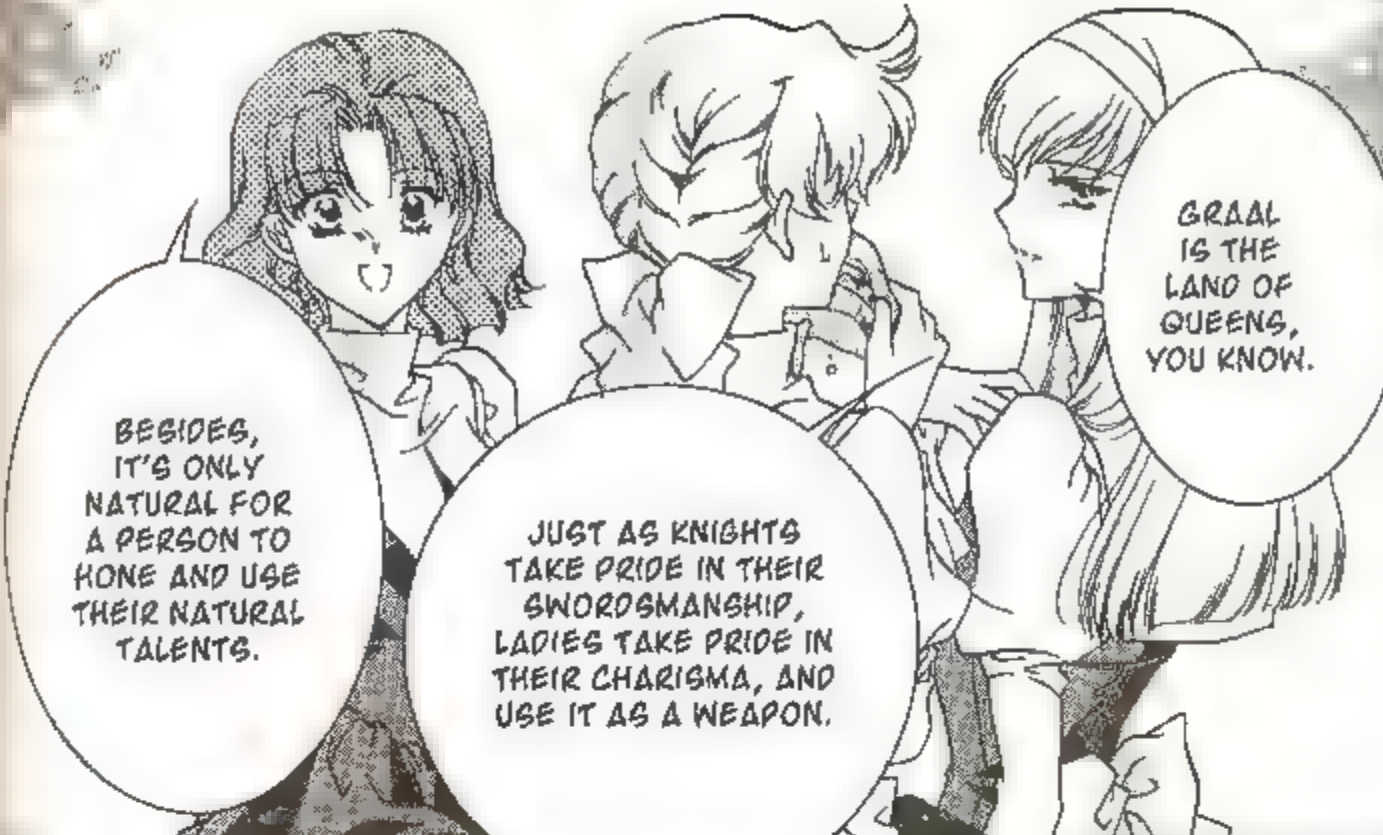
← Had
everything
explained
to her by
Marie

I CAN'T
BELIEVE
THERE'S
EVEN A
CLASS
ABOUT
THAT
HERE!

BUT SINCE
THE
STUDENTS
HERE ARE
THE FUTURE
MASTERS
OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS,
I SHOULD
HAVE
KNOWN!

VERY
EXCITED

EXACTLY!



BESIDES,
IT'S ONLY
NATURAL FOR
A PERSON TO
HONE AND USE
THEIR NATURAL
TALENTS.

JUST AS KNIGHTS
TAKE PRIDE IN THEIR
SWORDSMANSHIP,
LADIES TAKE PRIDE IN
THEIR CHARISMA, AND
USE IT AS A WEAPON.

GRAAL
IS THE
LAND OF
QUEENS,
YOU KNOW.

EVER
SINCE EVA
GRADUATED,
THE STUDENT
COUNCIL'S
POWER HAS
GROWN DAILY.

THERE ARE
RUMORS
THAT
SOMEONE
IS BEHIND
THEM,
PULLING
THEIR
STRINGS

BUT WE'VE
BEEN UNABLE
TO TIP THE
BALANCE
OF POWER
AWAY.

BUT LISTENING TO
VINCENT EXPLAIN
THE LOGIC OF IT,
I CAN KIND OF
SEE THE POINT
TO THAT SIDE
OF IT, TOO.

I AM
TRULY
VERY GLAD
YOU CAME
TO THE
ACADEMY,
FIRIEL.

OH.
I
SEE.

I THINK IT'S BETTER
IF PEOPLE COULD GET
MARRIED TO PEOPLE
THEY LOVE, LIKE MY
PARENTS EDILENE AND
PROFESSOR DEE-
DID.

VIN-
CENT

YOU
SEEM
AWFULLY
HAPPY
ABOUT
THE
SITUA-
TION
RIGHT
NOW

THINGS ARE
FINALLY
STARTING
TO BECOME
INTERESTING

YOUR
PRESENCE
ALONE IS
CAUSING A
SENSATION
THAT WILL
ROCK THE
ACADEMY TO
ITS CORE,
FIRIEL!

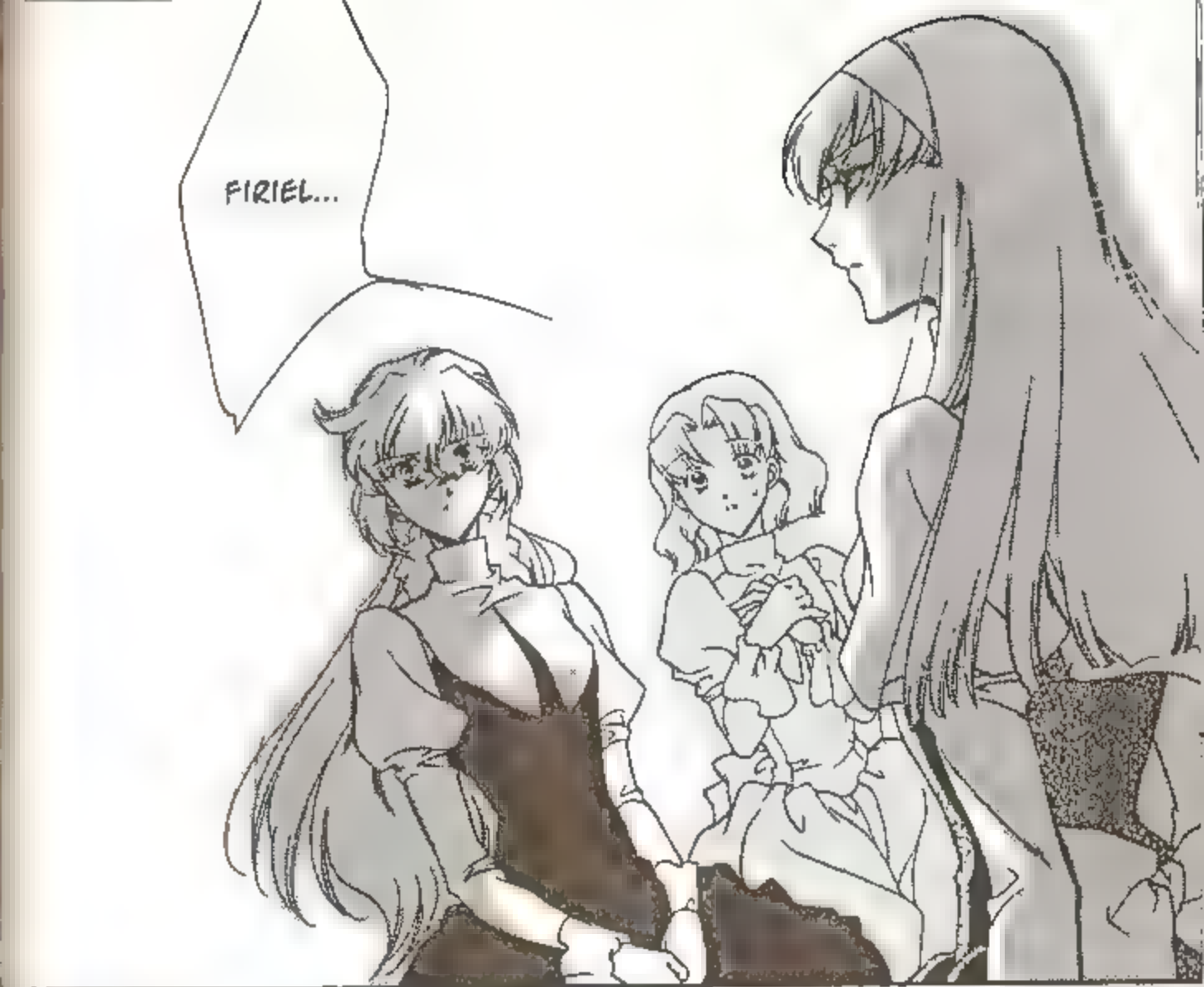
A LARGE
NUMBER OF
THE STUDENTS
HERE ARE
NOT HAPPY
WITH THE
TYRANNY OF
THE STUDENT
COUNCIL

BUT THEN YOU ARRIVED,
FIRIEL, BRINGING US
ONE OF EVA'S NOVELLAS
AND ANY NUMBER OF
COMPELLING MYSTERIES!

NOW THAT
EVERYONE
KNOWS YOU'RE
THIS YEAR'S
CHALLENGER

THE ENTIRE
ACADEMY IS
WAVERING.
NOW IS OUR
BEST CHANCE
TO REGAIN
POWER.

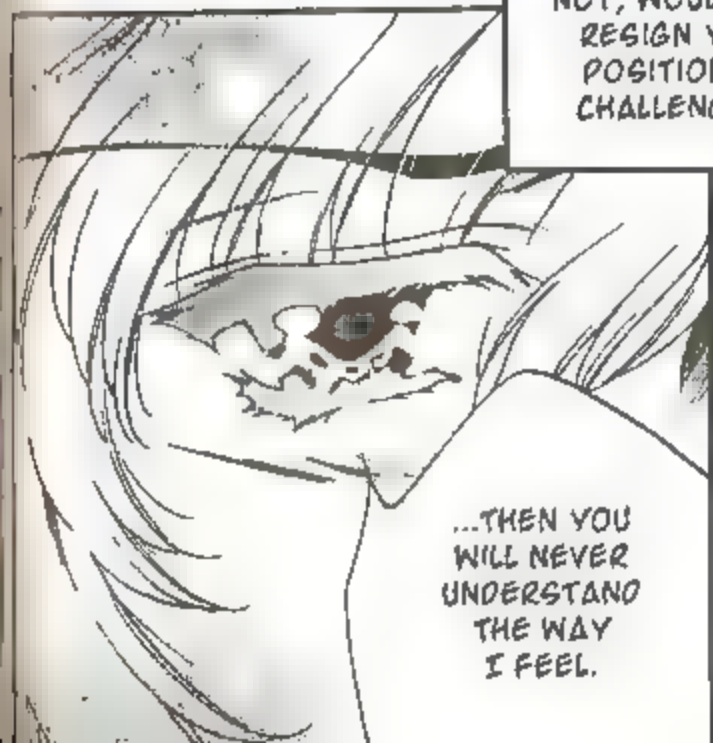
DOESN'T
ROSELITTE'S
DEATH BOTHER
YOU?



FIRIEL...



IF I SAID IT DID
NOT, WOULD YOU
RESIGN YOUR
POSITION AS
CHALLENGER?



...THEN YOU
WILL NEVER
UNDERSTAND
THE WAY
I FEEL.

NO.

JUST...IF
IT REALLY
MEANS
NOTHING
TO YOU...

..AND THE
STRENGTH
AND JOY OF
BELIEVING IN
SOMETHING.

I
WILL NOT
SAY A
PERSON'S
LIFE IS
UNIMPOR-
TANT

HOWEVER,
YOU DO
NEED TO
REALIZE

...YOU
SOMETIMES
REMIND ME
OF HER...

"WHEN YOU
READ A NOVEL,
YOUR RANK
AND PERSONAL
APPEARANCE
DON'T MATTER
IN THE LEAST."

"YOU MAY CALL ME
SOFT, VINCENT..."

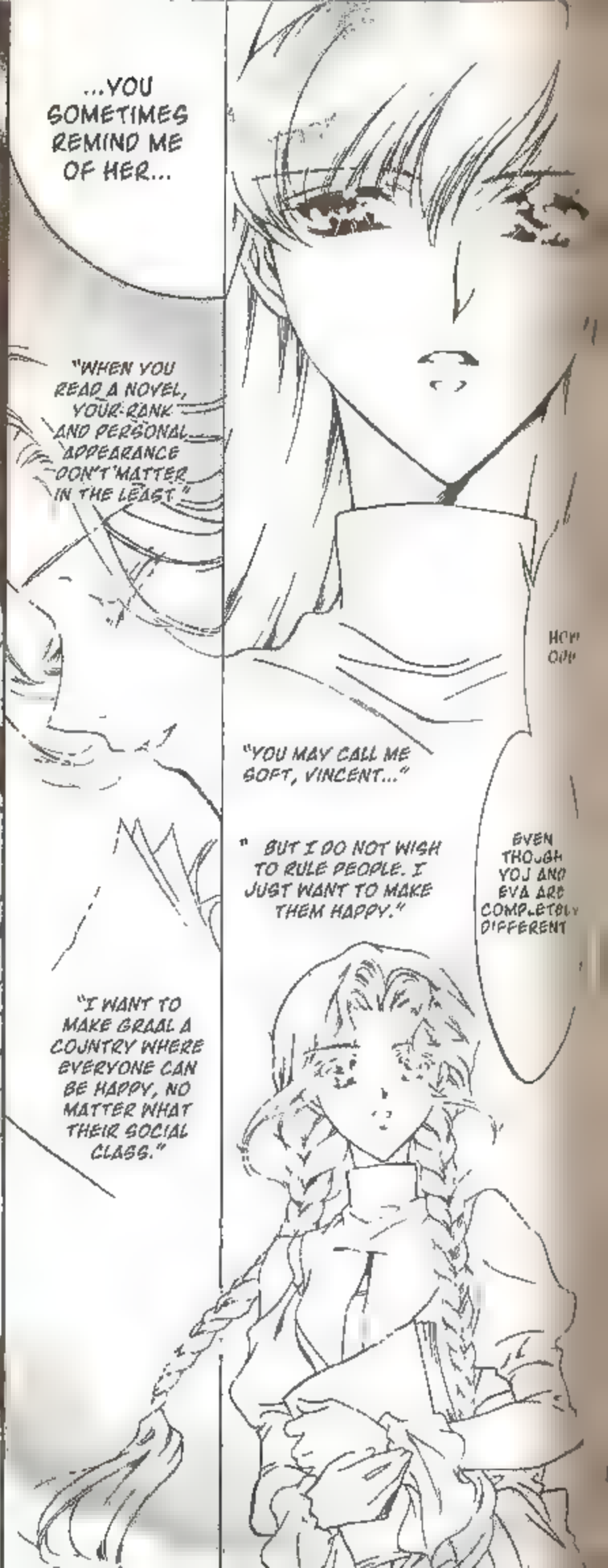
" BUT I DO NOT WISH
TO RULE PEOPLE. I
JUST WANT TO MAKE
THEM HAPPY."

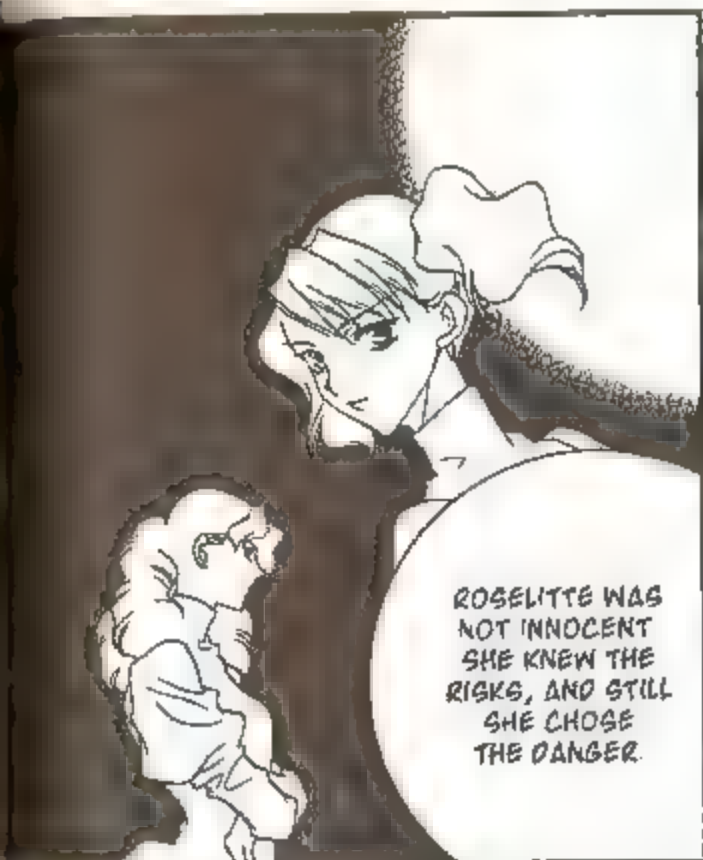
EVEN
THOUGH
YOU AND
EVA ARE
COMPLETELY
DIFFERENT

"I WANT TO
MAKE GRAAL A
COUNTRY WHERE
EVERYONE CAN
BE HAPPY, NO
MATTER WHAT
THEIR SOCIAL
CLASS."

THAT
JUST AS AN
HIERAGLION
ASSAS-
SINATION
IS NOT
UNCOMMON
AT THE
ACADEMY

VINCENT IS
CORRECT.





ROSELITTE WAS
NOT INNOCENT
SHE KNEW THE
RISKS, AND STILL
SHE CHOSE
THE DANGER.



IGRAINE...



HERE
DANGER
AND
AMBITION
ARE
DIRECTLY
PROPOR-
TIONATE

EVERY
GIRL WHO
ENROLLS
KNOWS
THAT.



I WAS
VERY
GLAD
THAT
YOU
DID.

THANK YOU,
FOR GETTING
ANGRY FOR
ROSELITTE'S
SAKE

I'LL BE
FINE,
FIRIEL.





"HAVE YOU
AND SISTER
IGRAINE
EXCHANGED
VOWS ON THE
STAR TERRACE
YET?"

"TO MY
BELOVED
SISTER
FIRIEL."

MM ...
WHAT
DO THEY
MEAN BY
THAT?



IT SEEMS
THEY'VE GOTTEN
THE IMPRESSION
FROM WATCHING
YOU TWO PRACTICE
SWORDPLAY
THAT YOU TWO
ARE INTIMATE.



LADY ADALE'S
NOVELLA IS
PROBABLY
PARTLY TO
BLAME, TOO

INTI-
MATE ?



YOU'RE
A REDHEAD,
AND SHE
IS PRETTY
KNIGHTLY,
AFTER ALL.
EVERYONE
IS PROBABLY
SEEING THE
TWO MAIN
CHARACTERS
IN YOU TWO

BECAUSE IT'S A
PASSIONATE AND
HEARTBREAKING
LOVE STORY ABOUT
A RED-HAIRED
KNIGHT.

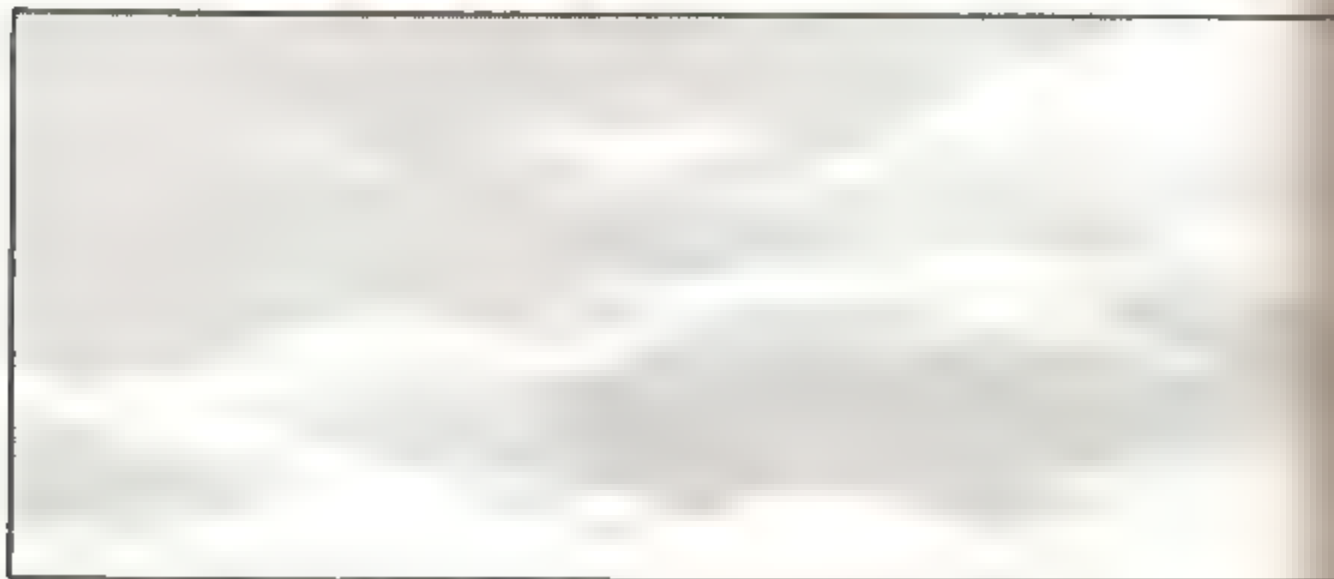
...AND A
BLACK-
HAired
HERETIC
BOY.

ADALE'S
BOOK?
WHY?

PASSIONATE
AND HEART
BREAKING LOVE
STORY ABOUT
WHO???

Finkel,
you are
scaring me

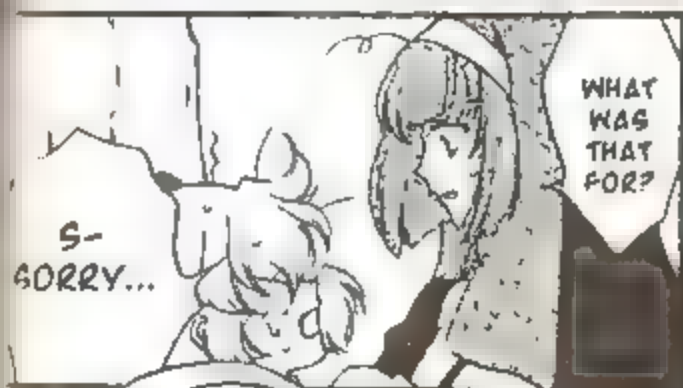
I MEAN
THIS IS AN
ALL GIRLS
SCHOOL
AFTER
A





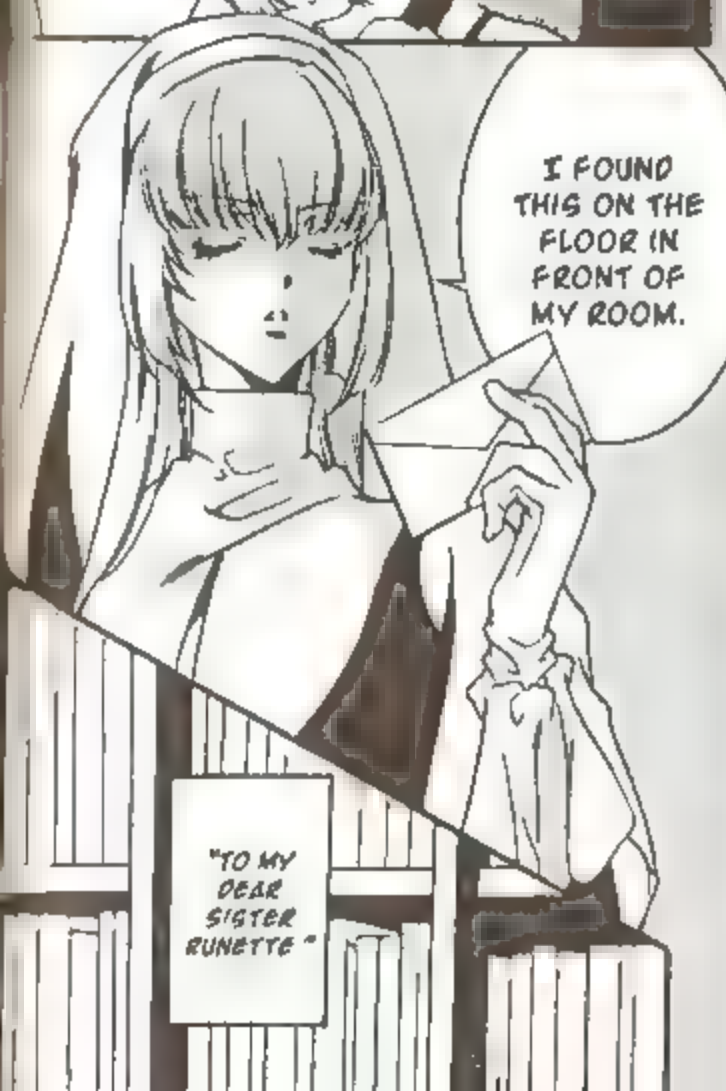
FIRI--

YEEEEK!!



S-
GORY...

WHAT
WAS
THAT
FOR?



I FOUND
THIS ON THE
FLOOR IN
FRONT OF
MY ROOM.

"TO MY
DEAR
SISTER
RUNETTE"



ADDALE

アム-3

[illegible]

Abstract

400

[illegible]

Abstract

I HAVE A
REALLY BAD
FEELING
ABOUT THIS

*Y 212
 P 212.4
 G 212.4
 S 212.4
 L

A close-up of a character's face, likely a woman, with a slight smile. The image is in black and white with some shading.

LAGRANGE'S
"ANALYTICAL
MECHANICS."

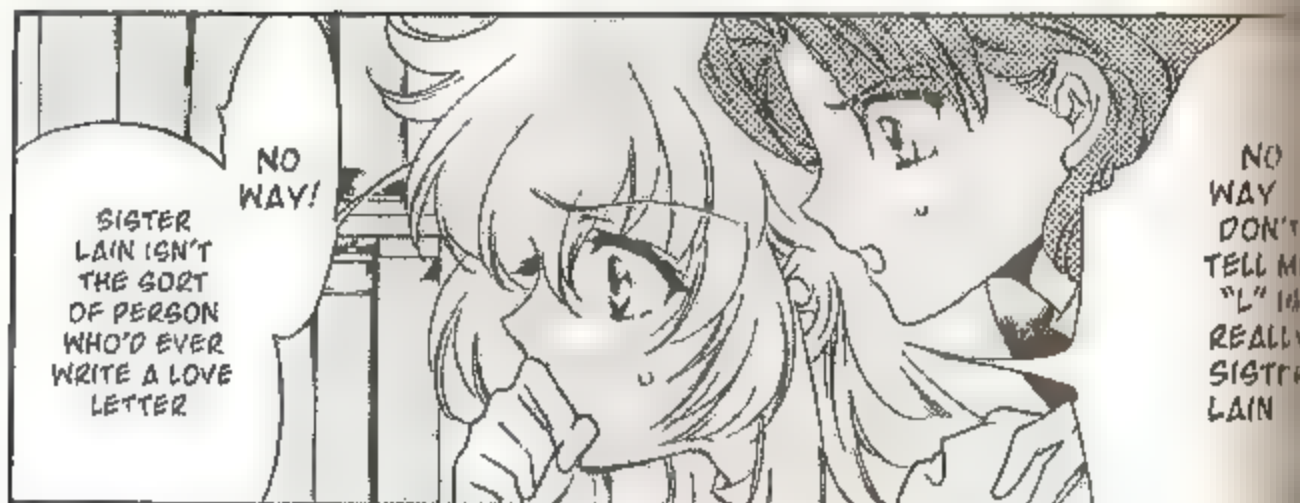
A character wearing a long, light-colored hooded cloak, holding a book. The character's face is partially visible through the hood.

SO THERE IS
SOMEONE WHO
WOULD READ
IT. AND HERE I
HAD THOUGHT
SUCH A GEM
WAS WASTED
ON THIS PLACE.

A character with long, dark hair, looking down. The image is in black and white with some shading.

SISTER
LAIN...?

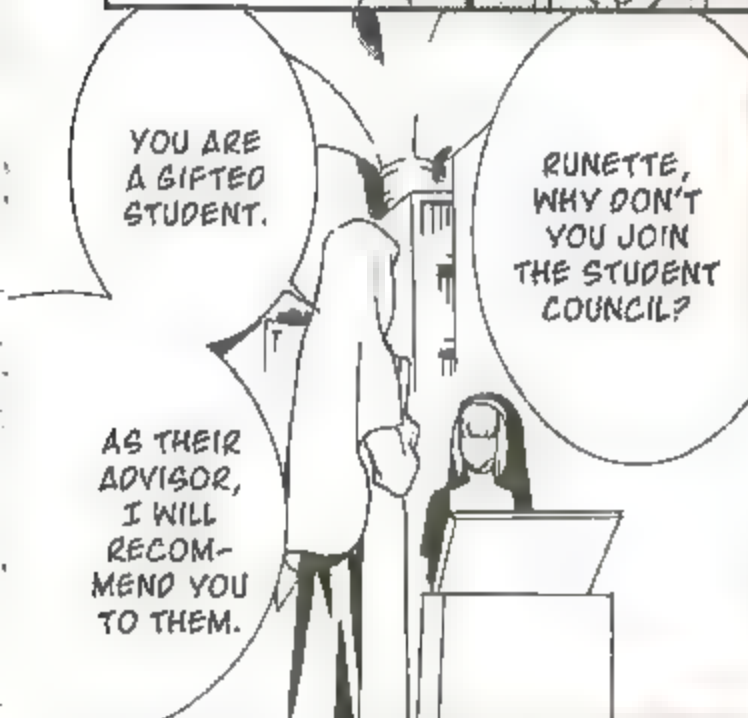




SISTER
LAIN ISN'T
THE SORT
OF PERSON
WHO'D EVER
WRITE A LOVE
LETTER

NO
WAY!

NO
WAY
DON'T
TELL ME
"L" IS
REALLY
SISTER
LAIN



YOU ARE
A GIFTED
STUDENT.

RUNETTE,
WHY DON'T
YOU JOIN
THE STUDENT
COUNCIL?

AS THEIR
ADVISOR,
I WILL
RECOM-
MEND YOU
TO THEM.



IS THERE
SOMETHING
YOU WISH TO
SPEAK WITH
ME ABOUT,
SISTER LAIN?



IT'S TOO
DARK
I CAN'T
SEE HIS
FACE



NO,
THANK
YOU

I HAVE NO
INTENTION
OF EVER
JOINING
THE PEOPLE
WHO BULLIED
FIRIEL.

THEN
SIMPLY DON'T
TELL THE LITTLE
RED KITTEN.





IF YOU
HAVE ANY
FEELINGS FOR
THE KITTEN
AT ALL...

...YOU WILL
OBEY MY
ORDERS.

YOU
HAVE NO
CONCENTRATION
TODAY!

WHAT'S
DISTRACTING
YOU? WHERE
IS YOUR MIND
GOING?

huff

huff

huff



YOU DIDN'T
ANSWER
ME AT
PRACTICE,
FIRIEL. WHAT
HAS GOT
SUCH A HOLD
ON YOUR
THINKING?

WE NEVER
DID FIND OUT
WHO SENT
THAT LETTER
TO RUNE.

NOW I'M
REALLY
CURIOUS.

I WOULD
LOVE TO
KNOW WHAT
KIND OF
PERSON
COULD
ANARE YOUR
HEART.

SOMETHING
YOU
COULDN'T
IMAGINE,
IGRAINE.



YOU HAVE
A BRILLIANT
GLOW TO YOU
TODAY, FIRIEL.



ROSELITE
WAS THE
SAME
WAY

WHEN A
GIRL FINDS
SOMEONE TO WHOM
TO GIVE HER HEART,
SHE BECOMES FAR
MORE BEAUTIFUL
THAN SHE WAS
BEFORE

EVEN
BRIGHTER
THAN
WHEN YOU
ARRIVED.

THAT'S
BECAUSE
SOMEONE HAS
CAPTURED
YOUR HEART,
RIGHT?

EYES
SKIN.

VOICE...

EVERY
PART OF
HER TAKES
ON A SHINE
IT DIDN'T
HAVE
BEFORE.



I THINK
YOU HAVE
THE TOTALLY
WRONG IDEA,
IGRAINE.



ACTUALLY,
I'M HAPPY
TO HEAR
THAT
IS THE
CASE...

IS
THAT
SO?



...BECAUSE
I'M VERY FOND
OF THE BRAVE
WOMAN YOU'RE
BECOMING.

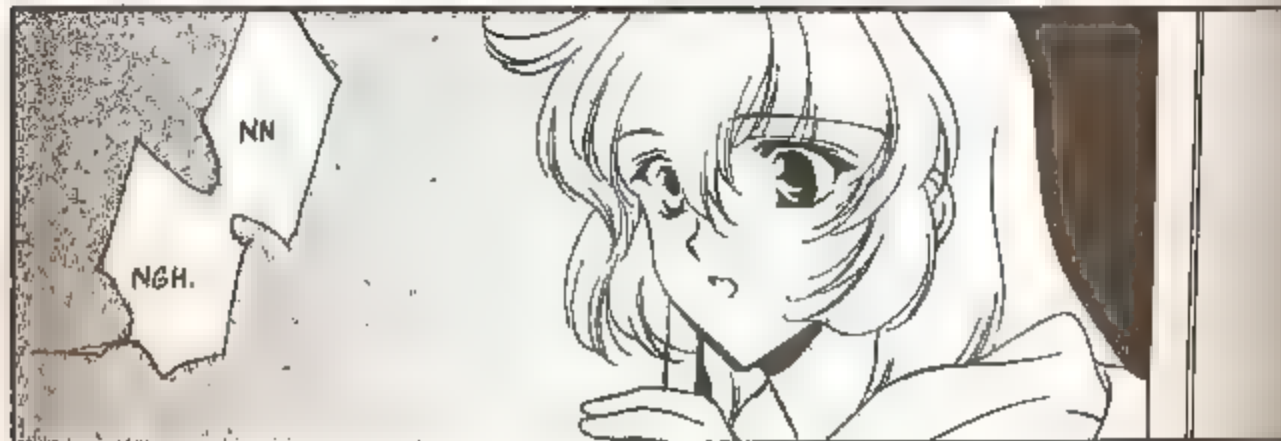
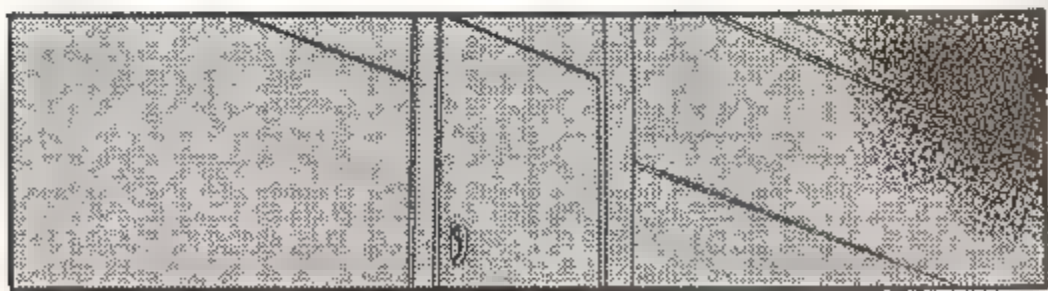
#11
70

I
THINK
I'LL GO
CHECK
ON HIM
LATER.



...RUNE
WASN'T
LOOKING
SO GOOD.

IT'S
NOTHING







G
A
Y
A
A
A
A
A

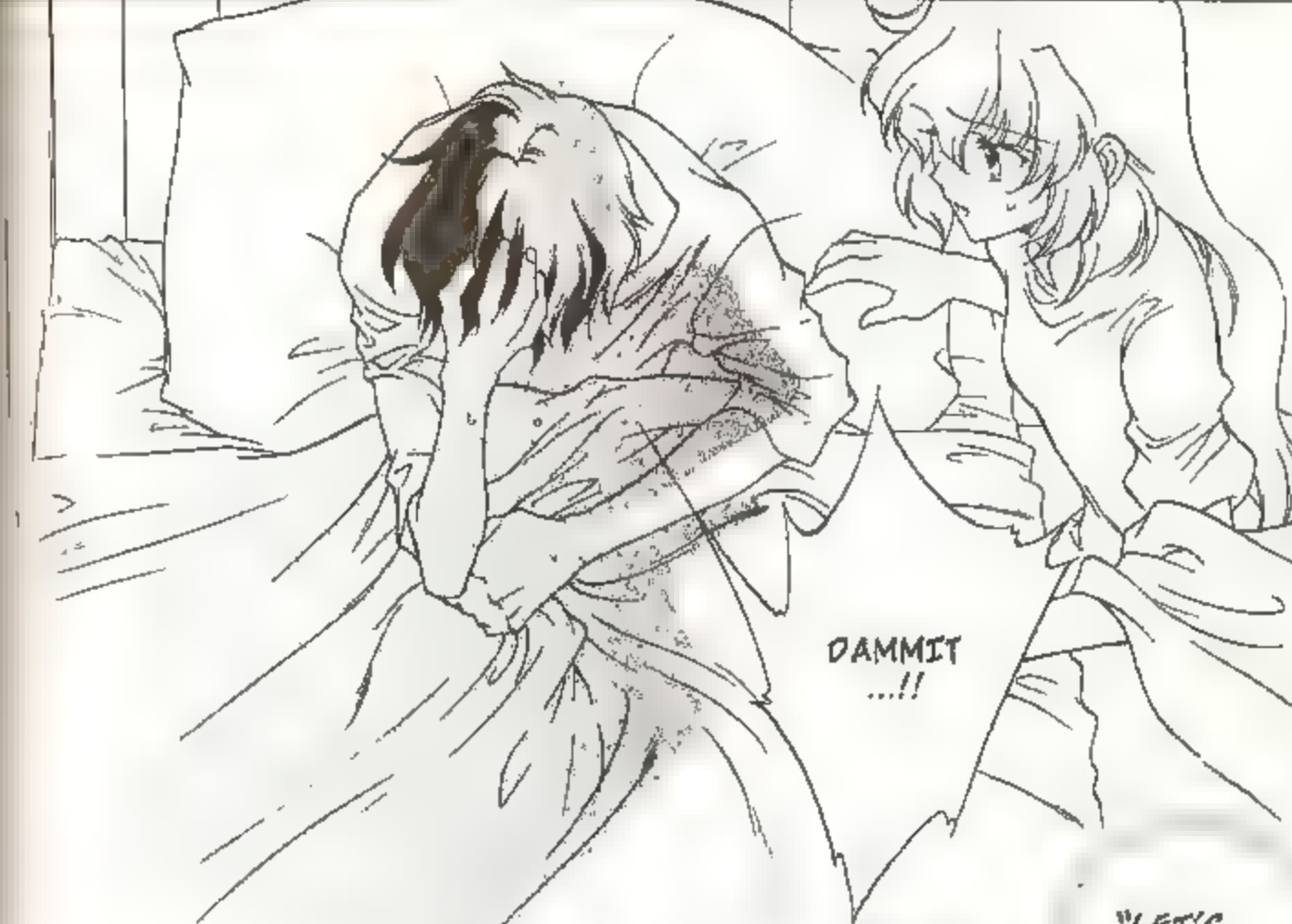
huff

huff

RUNE!
RUNE,
IT'S ME!



DREAM
AGAIN.



DAMMIT
...!!

"LET'S
PLAY
CHESS."



HE
SCARED
ME SO
BADLY
JUST
NOW...

THE
REASON YOU
KEPT COMING
TO MY ROOM
TO PLAY
CHESS LATE
EVERY NIGHT
IS BECAUSE
YOU DIDN'T
WANT TO
SLEEP?

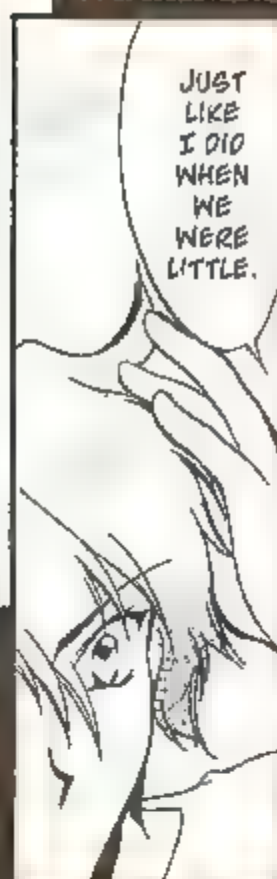
WAIT,
DON'T
TELL
ME...

bump



YOU'RE
ENTIRELY
TOO
TRUSTING,
FIRIEL!

AGAIN



JUST
LIKE
I DID
WHEN
WE
WERE
LITTLE.

ト
キ
ン

HIS
EYES
WERE
SO...
BLANK.

IT WAS LIKE
HIS SOUL
HAD GONE
SOMEWHERE
FAR AWAY

ト
キ
ン



IF
YOU'RE
HAVING
BAD
DREAMS

THEN I'LL
STAY WITH
YOU AND
HOLD YOUR
HAND ALL
NIGHT, IF
NEED BE

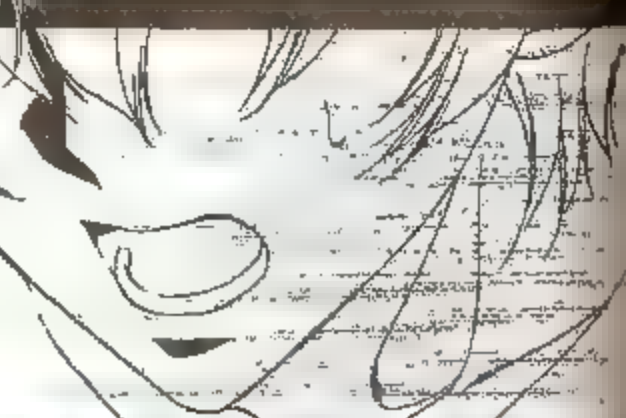


BUT...

.. WHY
WOULD I
HAVE TO
GUARD
MYSELF
AROUND
YOU,
RUNE?

THAT
BLANK LOOK
AGAIN. IT'S
LIKE HE'S
SOMEBODY
I DON'T
KNOW.

GET
OUT!!





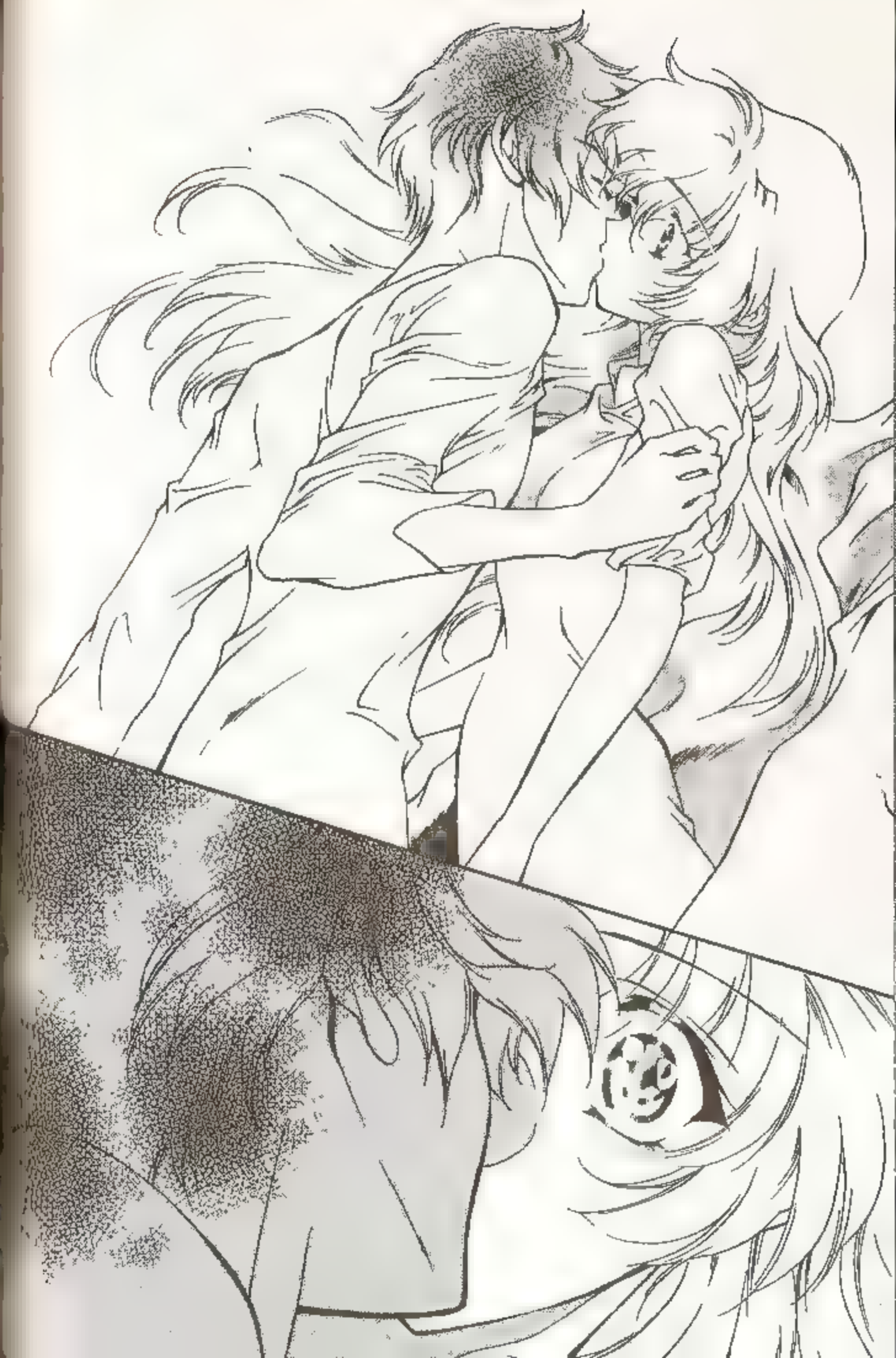


YOU TRY SO
HARD TO DO
EVERYTHING
YOU
CAN FOR
OTHERS...

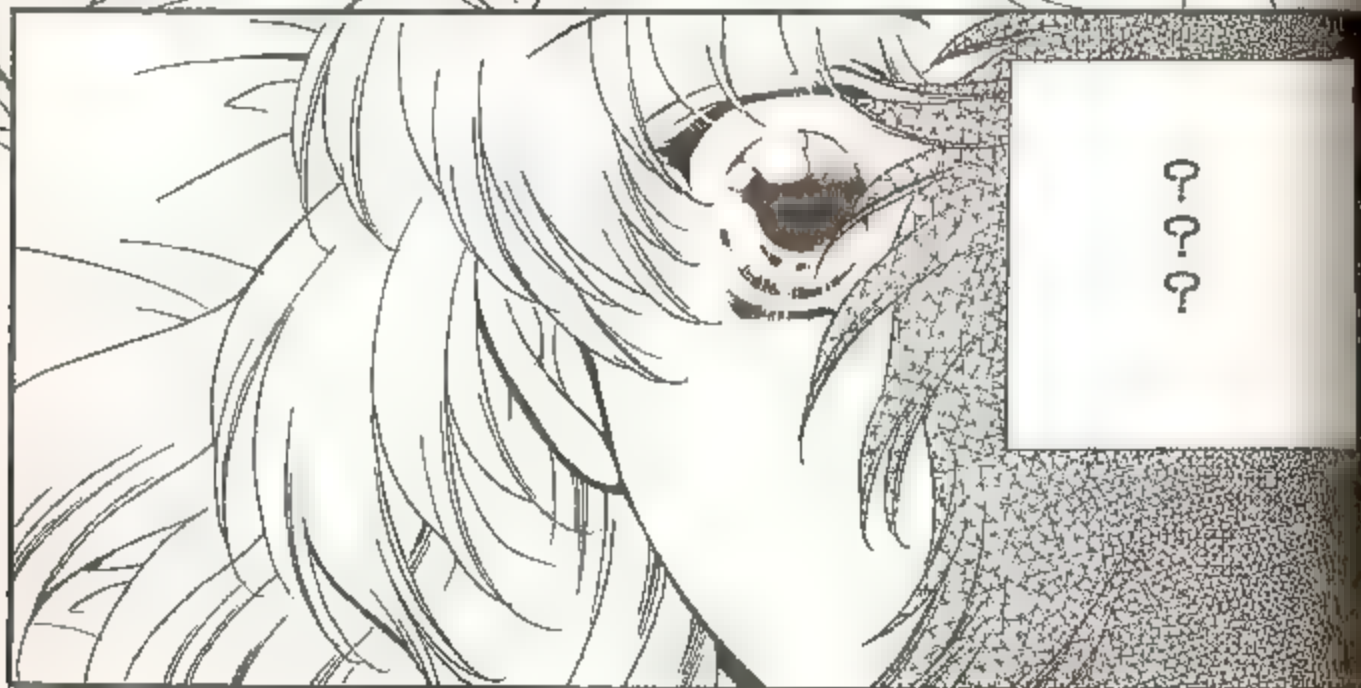
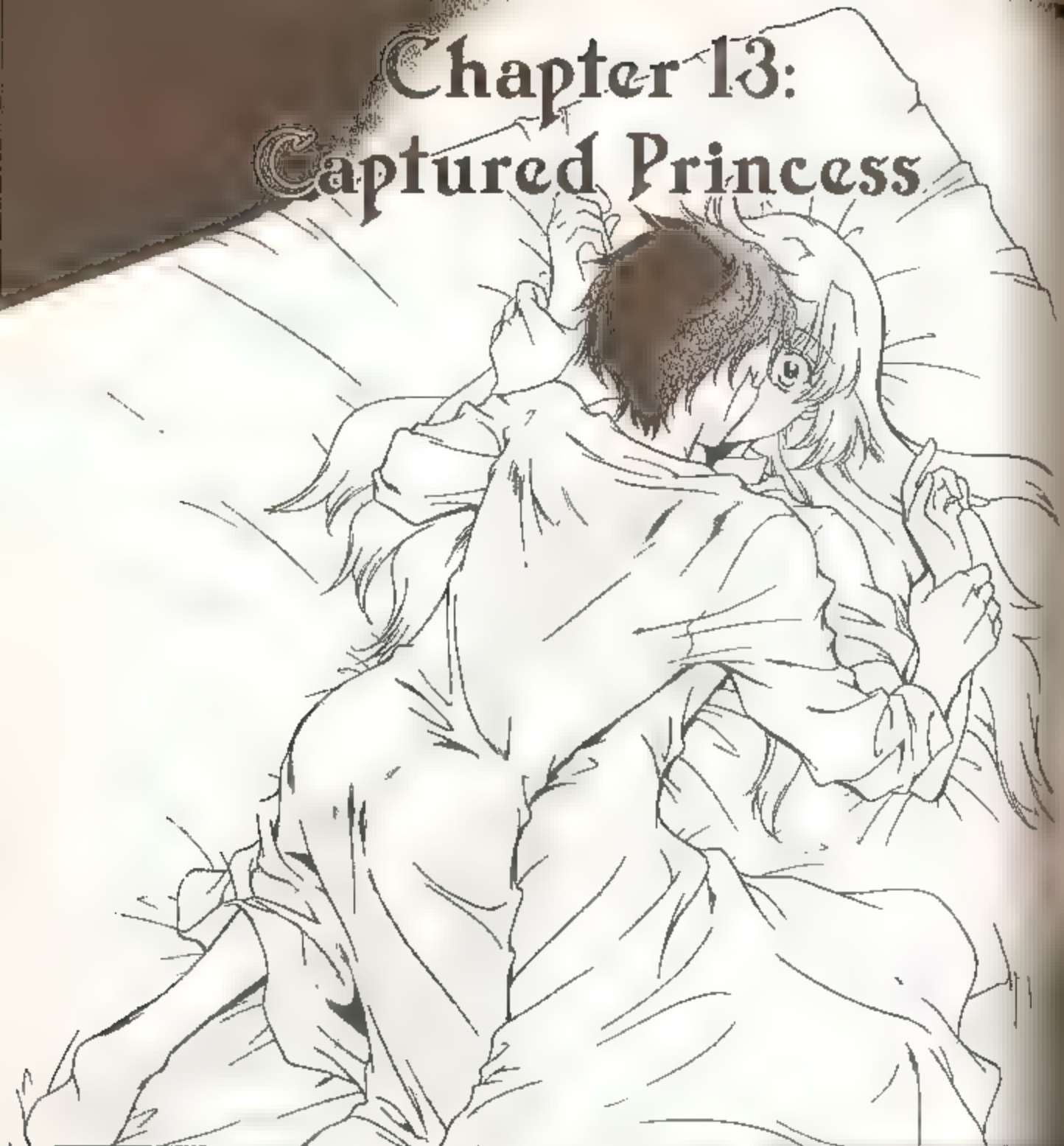
BUT
YOU'VE
ALWAYS
BEEN
CARELESS
WHEN IT
COMES TO
YOURSELF

ALWAYS!

DO YOU STILL
SEE ME AS
NOTHING MORE
THAN A LITTLE
BROTHER?



Chapter 13: Captured Princess





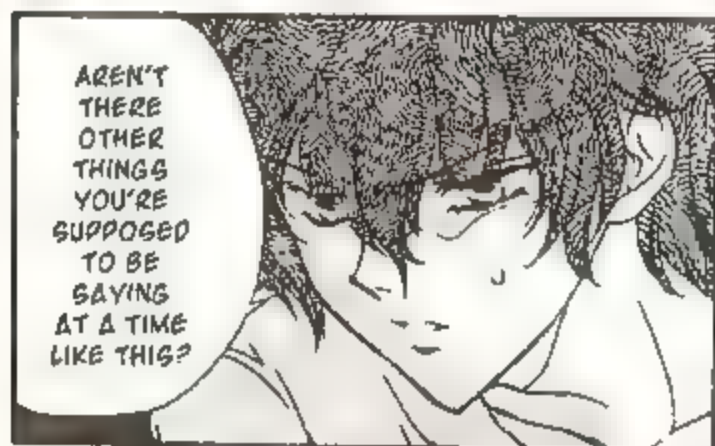
NN...

NNH...

Ahooo



WHERE'D
YOU LEARN
HOW TO DO
THAT?



AREN'T
THERE
OTHER
THINGS
YOU'RE
SUPPOSED
TO BE
SAYING
AT A TIME
LIKE THIS?



WHO
TAUGHT
YOU ALL
THAT WHEN
I WASN'T
AROUND?!

LIKE
WHAT?
I MEAN,
THIS
JUST
ISN'T
RIGHT!

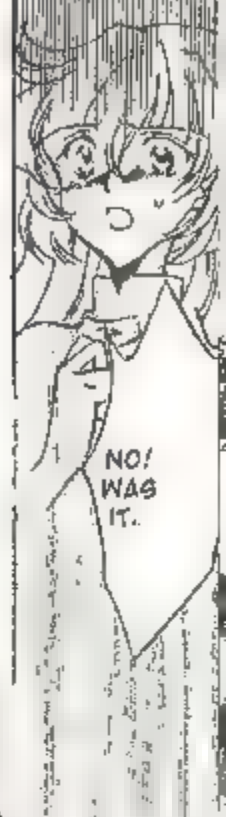
THERE'S A
MOUNTAIN
OF THINGS
I'VE DONE
WHEN YOU
WEREN'T
AROUND,
FIRIEL.



Yeep!

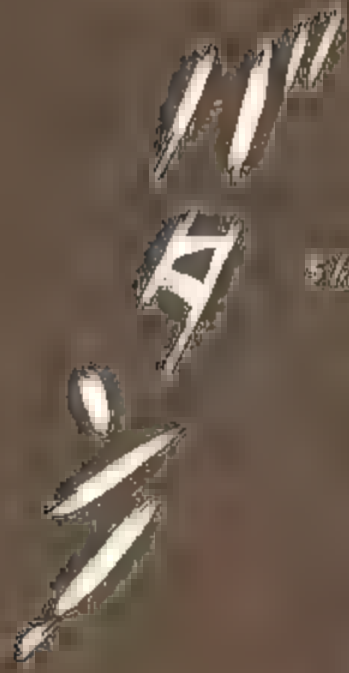
OH, MY
GOSH,
WHAT
AM I
THINKING?

LORD
EUSTIS?



NO!
WAS
IT.





BUT
NOW, HE
SUDDENLY
ACTS LIKE
A MAN. .

...AND
KNOWS HOW
LOVERS ARE
SUPPOSED
TO KISS AND
STUFF.

IT'S
NOT
FAIR...

RUNE'S
FAMILIAR
SCENT...THE
ONE PERSON
I'VE KNOWN
BETTER THAN
ANYBODY,
EVER SINCE
WE WERE
LITTLE.

WHY'D
HE GET
SO
ANGRY?

I'M THE
ONE WHO
SHOULD
BE
SHOCKED!

HE'S
THE ONE
WHO DID..
THAT,
ALL OF A
SUDDEN.



IT'S ALL
RUNETTE'S
FAULT.



I
COULDN'T
SLEEP

RU-
NETTE'S
ABSENT
TODAY,
TOO.

DID
SOMETHING
HAPPEN TO
YOU TWO?

HE WAS
THE ONE
WHO
KISSED ME
THAT WAY,
AFTER ALL.

IF
SOMETHING
GOES WRONG
AND RUNETTE
GETS IN
TROUBLE,
YOU'RE THE
ONLY PERSON
WHO'D
NOTICE IN
TIME

YOU TWO
CAN'T
FIGHT AT
A TIME
LIKE THIS!

Jaaz!



I MEAN, SHE
WAS ACTING
REALLY WEIRD
YESTERDAY,
REMEMBER?



FIRIEL,
WHAT'S
WRONG?

YOU LOOK
SO PALE THIS
MORNING.



カラン...

AH...



BUT

...I JUST DON'T KNOW HOW TO ACT AROUND HER ANY MORE.



...HAS SUDDENLY DRIFTED SO TERRIBLY FAR AWAY.



IT'S LIKE THE PERSON WHO WAS ALWAYS CLOSEST TO ME.



I'LL NEVER
BE ABLE TO
PROTECT
ANYONE
LIKE THIS!



EVERYTHING
INSIDE MY
HEART IS
ONE BIG,
CONFUSED
MESS!

BUT I
DON'T
HAVE
ANY
IDEA
WHAT
TO DO!



PERHAPS THE
BEST THING
FOR YOU TO
DO IS SIMPLY
LISTEN TO YOUR
HEART AND ACT
UPON YOUR
FEELINGS

SO
WHEN YOU
WAVER,
IT SHOWS
TWICE
AS MUCH
AS IT
WOULD ON
ANOTHER.

AT YOUR
CORE,
YOU ARE
A VERY
GENTLE
PERSON,
FIRIEL

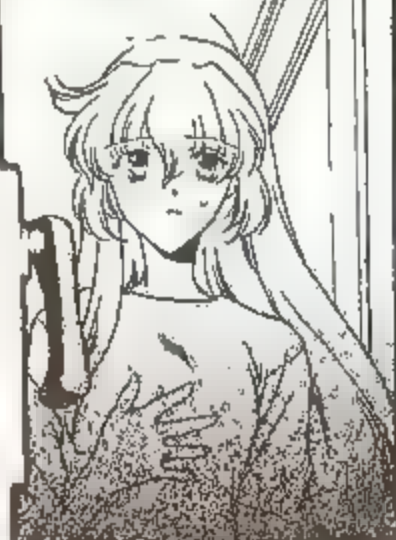


RU--

ハナヤ

WE
NEED
TO SIT
DOWN
AND
TALK
THIS
OUT

NOW ISN'T THE
TIME FOR RUNE
AND ME TO BE
ALL AWKWARD
AROUND EACH
OTHER.



MARIE AND
IGRAINE
ARE RIGHT.



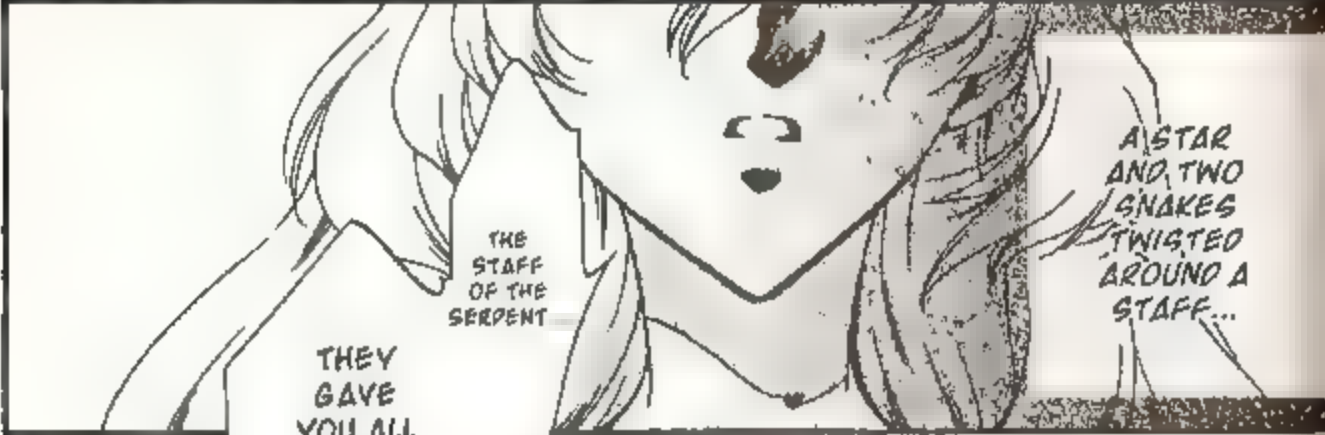


IT LOOKED
LIKE SOME
BEAST'S
CLAWS HAD
RIPPED
ACROSS
HIS SKIN,
DOZENS AND
DOZENS OF
TIMES...

...AND THE
ANGRY
RED BURNS
ON HIS
CHEST...



HE WAS
BRANDED?!



A close-up of a character with long, wavy hair. A staff is held in front of their face, partially obscuring it. The staff has a star-shaped ornament at the top.

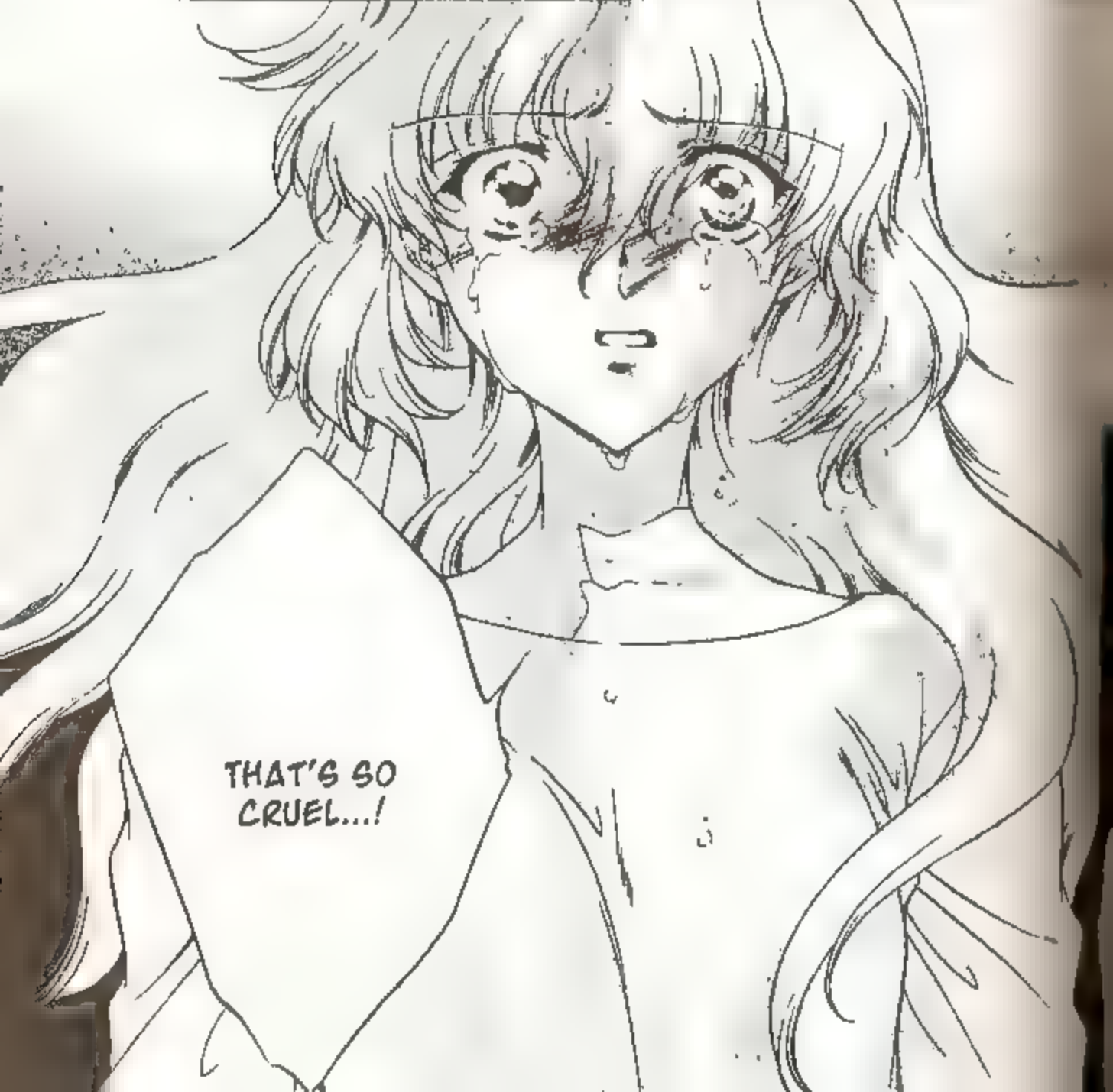
THE
STAFF
OF THE
SERPENT

A STAR
AND TWO
SNAKES
TWISTED
AROUND A
STAFF...



A character with short, dark hair is shown from the chest up, holding a sword. The sword is held horizontally in front of them. The background consists of vertical lines.

THEY
GAVE
YOU ALL
THOSE
SCARS,
DIDN'T
THEY.. ?



A large, close-up shot of a character with long, wavy hair. The character has a surprised or shocked expression, with wide eyes and an open mouth. A staff is visible in the foreground, partially obscuring the lower part of the face.

THAT'S SO
CRUEL....!



I KNEW
IT

I KNEW
YOU
WOULD
CRY



THAT'S
WHY I
DIDN'T
WANT TO
LET YOU
SEE

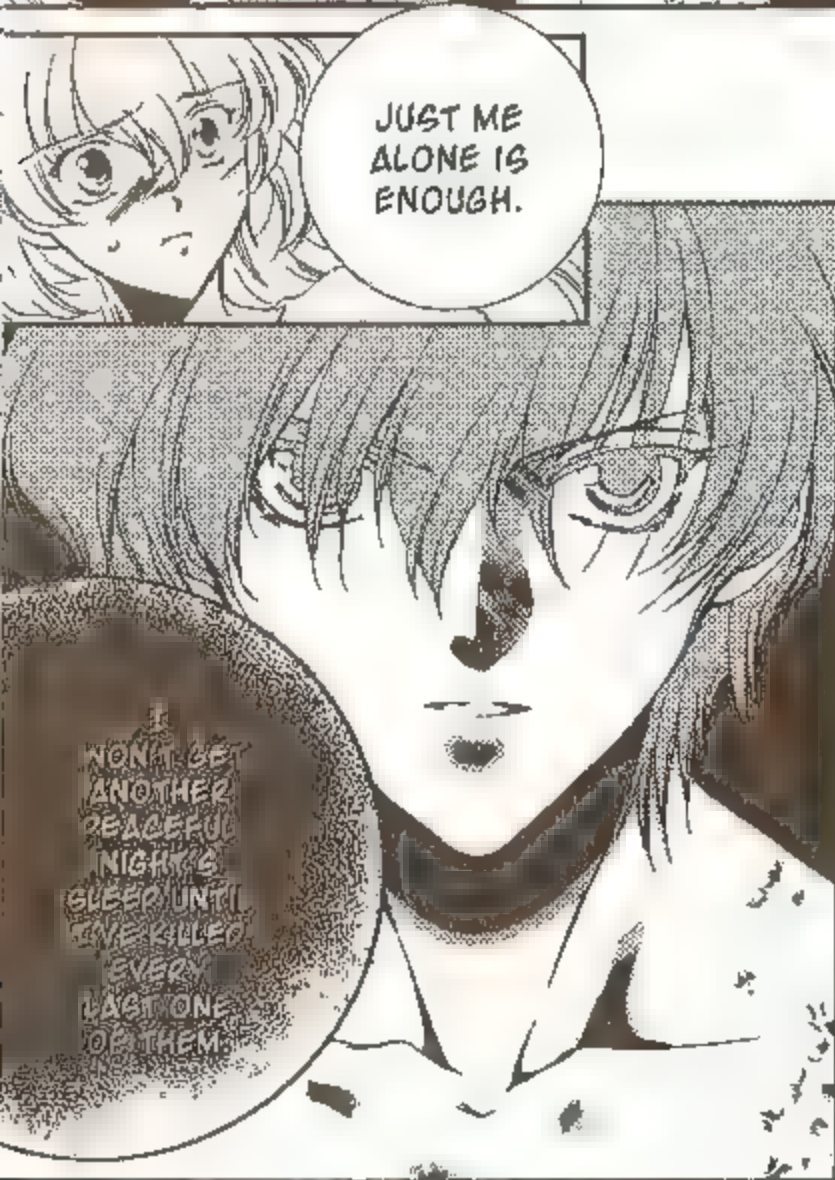
I'M FINE,
FIRIEL.



WHY?!

WHY DID
YOU KEEP
QUIET ABOUT
SOMETHING
LIKE THIS?!

WERE YOU
GOING TO
TRY TO KEEP
SOMETHING
THIS
HORRIBLE
A SECRET
FROM ME
FOREVER?!



I DON'T
WANT MY
DARKNESS
TO STAIN
YOUR
LIGHT!!

BUT THIS
ISN'T
SOMETHING
YOU NEED
TO SHARE
WITH ME,
FIRIEL.

AS LONG
AS A
SINGLE
ONE OF
THEM
LIVES,
THIS
GRUDGE
WON'T
SUBSIDE.

BURY
THE SEED
DEEP INSIDE
FEED IT WITH
HATRED

I AM FULLY
AWARE OF
HOW BLACK
MY THOUGHTS
ARE, AND HOW
DESPICABLE MY
DESIRES ARE.

NURSE!!!
RAISE IT...
MAKE IT
GROW INTO
A BLACK
TREE...

IT ISN'T
ANY OF YOUR
BUSINESS.

NEVER
FORGET

YOU
BELONG
TO US

FIRIEL..

I DON'T THINK
YOU COULD
EVER IMAGINE
WHAT HAPPENED
TO ME

THEY USED
EVERY KIND
OF TORTURE
EXCEPT
DEATH...

...TO CARVE
THEIR MARK
ON MY BODY



TELL ME TO
KEEP MY NOSE
OUT OF IT ONE
MORE TIME
AND I SWEAR
I'LL SLAP YOU,
RUMPELSTILTZKIN.



IF NONE OF
THIS WAS
ANYBODY ELSE'S
BUSINESS, THEN
WHAT ARE YOU
DOING HERE?

YOU THINK
BECAUSE
YOU'RE
GOING
SOME-
PLACE
DANGER-
OUS.

.. YOU CAN
LEAVE ME
BEHIND?
WELL,
YOU'RE
DEAD
WRONG.

WHOSE
RESEARCH MADE
SOMEBODY WANT
TO GIVE YOU ALL
THOSE SCARS?

WHAT MAKES
YOU THINK
THAT WHEN
YOU'RE HURT
AND BLEEDING
AND ALL ALONE
IN THE DARK..

I COULD JUST
HIT PEACEFULLY
SOMEWHERE
ELSE AND SMILE
HAPPILY?!



WE'VE
BEEN AS
CLOSE AS
SIBLINGS.

...EVER
SINCE
WE WERE
LITTLE.

NO WE
WERE EVEN
CLOSER
THAN THAT.

IF THERE'S
SOMEONE OUT
THERE THAT YOU
WANT TO KILL,
THEN IT'S ONLY
NATURAL THAT
I WANT TO KILL
THEM, TOO.

I WILL
NEVER,
EVER
FORGIVE
ANYONE
WHO DARES
HURT YOU,
RUNE

カン

カ
カ
ン
ツ

I'VE GOT AN
ADVANTAGE
OVER YOU,
YOU KNOW

DON'T
BE
STUPID.

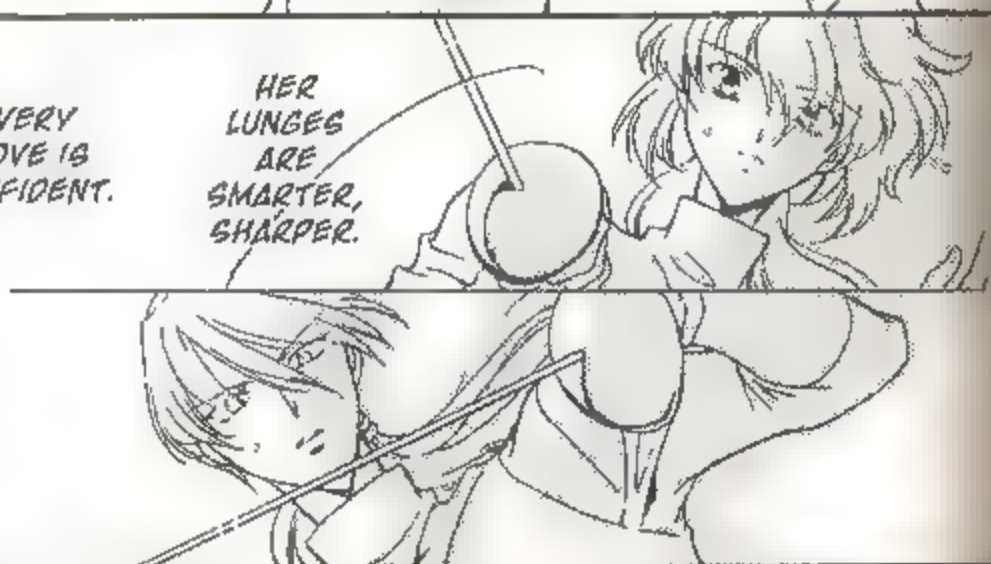
I'M LEARNING
HOW TO USE
A SWORD.



SHE IS A
COMPLETELY
DIFFERENT
PERSON THAN
SHE WAS
YESTERDAY.

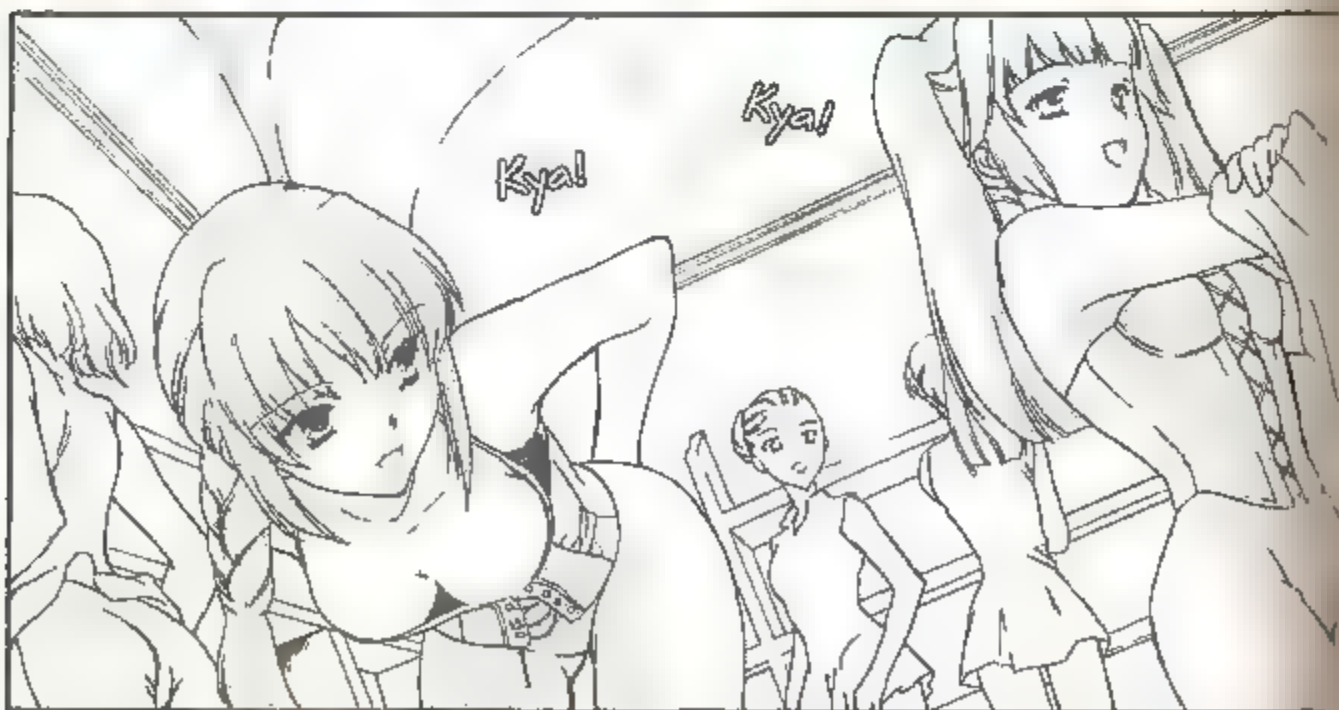
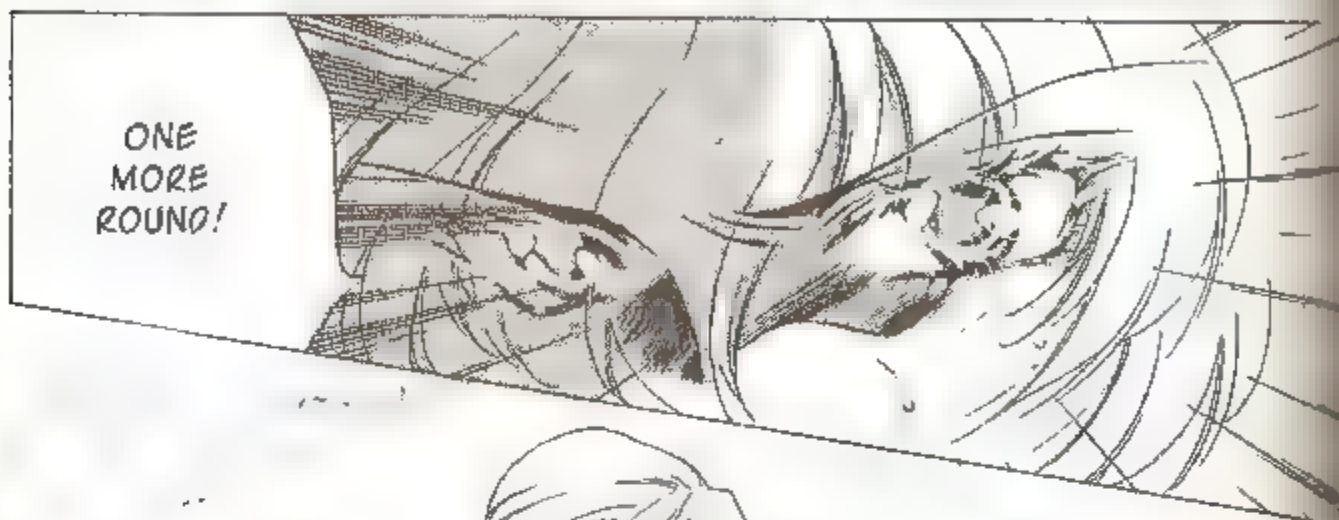
EVERY
MOVE IS
CONFIDENT.

HER
LUNGES
ARE
SMARTER,
SHARPER.



WHAT
CHANGED
HER SO
MUCH IN
ONE NIGHT?





SHE WENT
OFF WITH
ADY LYTCIA
JUST A
MINUTE
AGO.



SHE
ALWAYS
SITS OVER
IN THAT
CORNER,
WATCHING
CLASS.

WHERE'S
RUNETTE?



I THINK THEY
WERE GOING TO
THE STUDENT
COUNCIL ROOM.

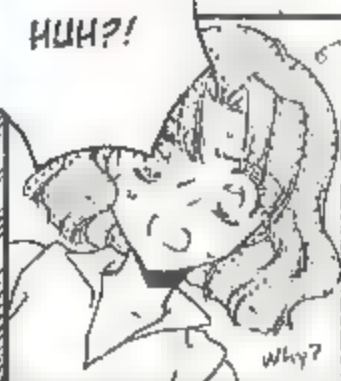
FIRIEL
?!

7
14



AFTER
YOU

HUH?!



Why?

IF THE
STUDENT
COUNCIL
GETS
THEIR
HANDS
ON HER,
THEY'LL
STRIP
HER
NAKED!





...RUNETTE.

I'VE BEEN
WAITING
FOR YOU ..

A GIFTED
STUDENT
SUCH AS
YOURSELF
IS WASTED
ANYWHERE
BUT ON
THE
STUDENT
COUNCIL.

NEVER
MIND
YOUR
TRUE
SEX.

THIS IS THAT
EMOTIONLESS
STATUE
SISTER LAIN?

SHE LOOKS
COMPLETELY
DIFFERENT!



GIVE ME THE N'HEMERIS AND I SHALL TELL YOU ANYTHING YOU WANT TO KNOW.

HAVING A NICKNAME SO UTTERLY OPPOSITE OF WHAT I TRULY AM IS ACTUALLY QUITE AMUSING.

Heh
heh.
THE HOLY MOTHER OF MERCY, HMM?

HER VOICE
IT SLIDES ITS WAY INSIDE ME, MAKING ME FEEL SO GOOD.

YOU'RE PART OF THE CIRCLE OF HERMES?!

WHO ARE YOU?!



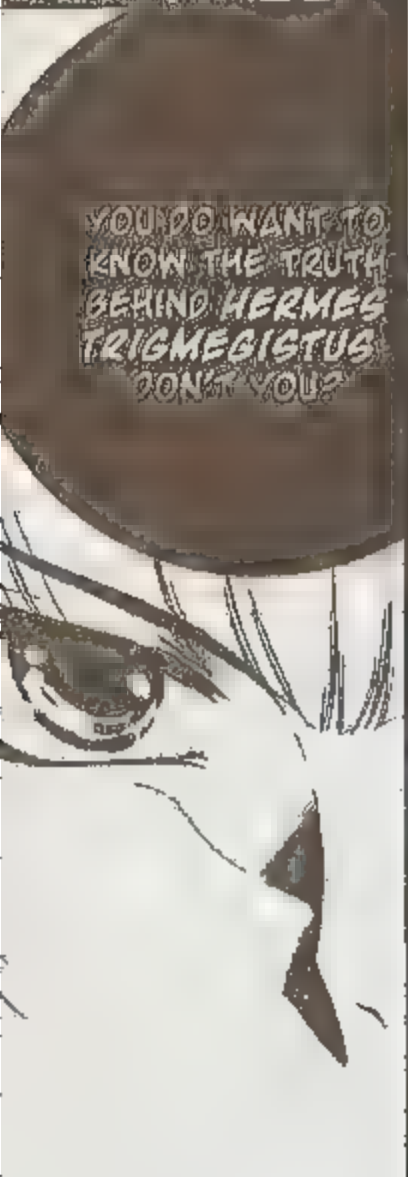
OH, PLEASE! DON'T ASSOCIATE ME WITH THAT PACK OF BRUTES.

ONLY MEN HAVE SUCH OBSESSIVE MINDS.

SO IT'S NOT JUST MEN, THEN.



GIVE
ME THE
EPHEMERIS,
AND I SHALL
GIVE YOU
A PRESENT
IN RETURN.



YOU DO WANT TO
KNOW THE TRUTH
BEHIND HERMES
TRIGMEGISTUS,
DON'T YOU?

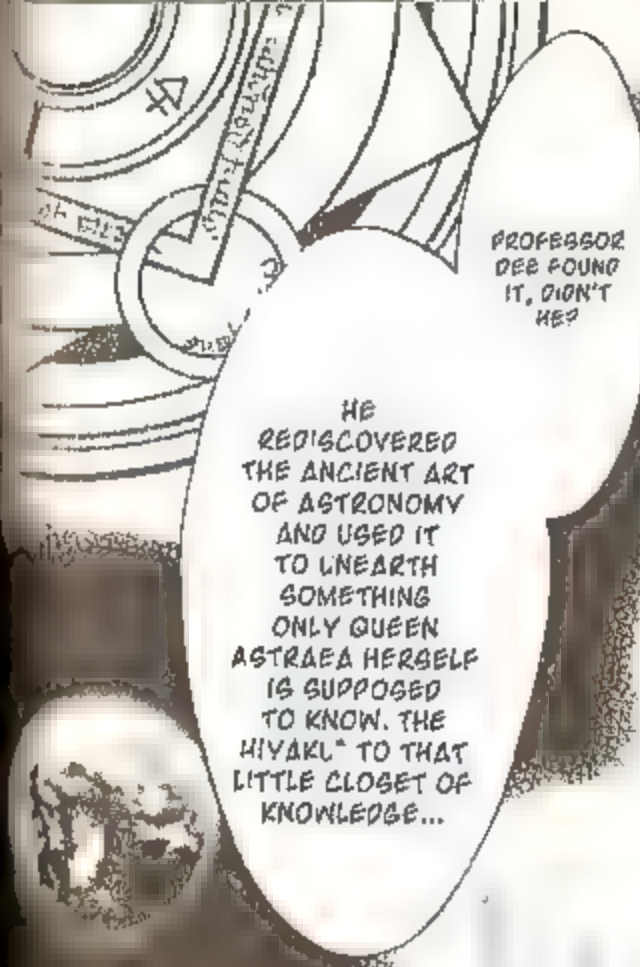


YOU
LOOK SO
SURPRISED,
RUNETTE

WHAT, DIDN'T
YOU THINK I'D
BE SO WELL-
INFORMED OF
THE CRUCIAL
DETAILS OF THE
PROFESSOR'S
RESEARCH?

MY,
MY

IN OTHER WORDS,
TO CONTROL
THE EPHEMERIS
IS TO HAVE AS
MUCH POWER
AS THE STAR
QUEEN HERSELF,
IF NOT MORE.



HE
REDISCOVERED
THE ANCIENT ART
OF ASTRONOMY
AND USED IT
TO UNEARTH
SOMETHING
ONLY QUEEN
ASTRAEA HERSELF
IS SUPPOSED
TO KNOW. THE
HIYAKU* TO THAT
LITTLE CLOSET OF
KNOWLEDGE...

PROFESSOR
DEE FOUND
IT, DIDN'T
HE?

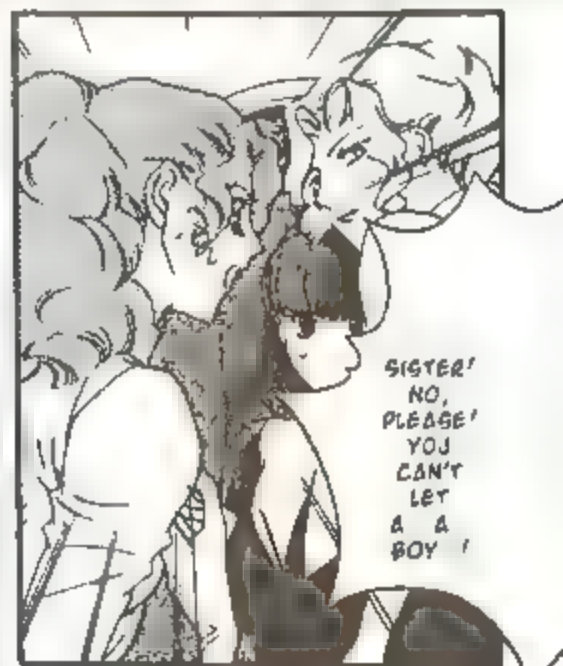
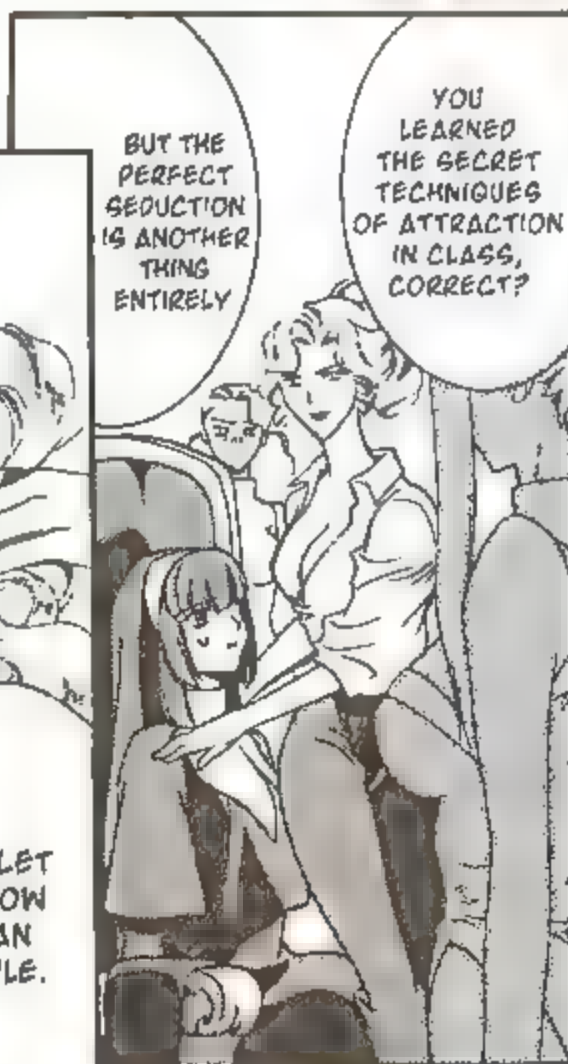
WITH IT, I WILL
HAVE THE KEY TO
THE FATE OF THE
ENTIRE WORLD IN
MY HANDS--THE
REVOLUTIONARY'S
STAR!

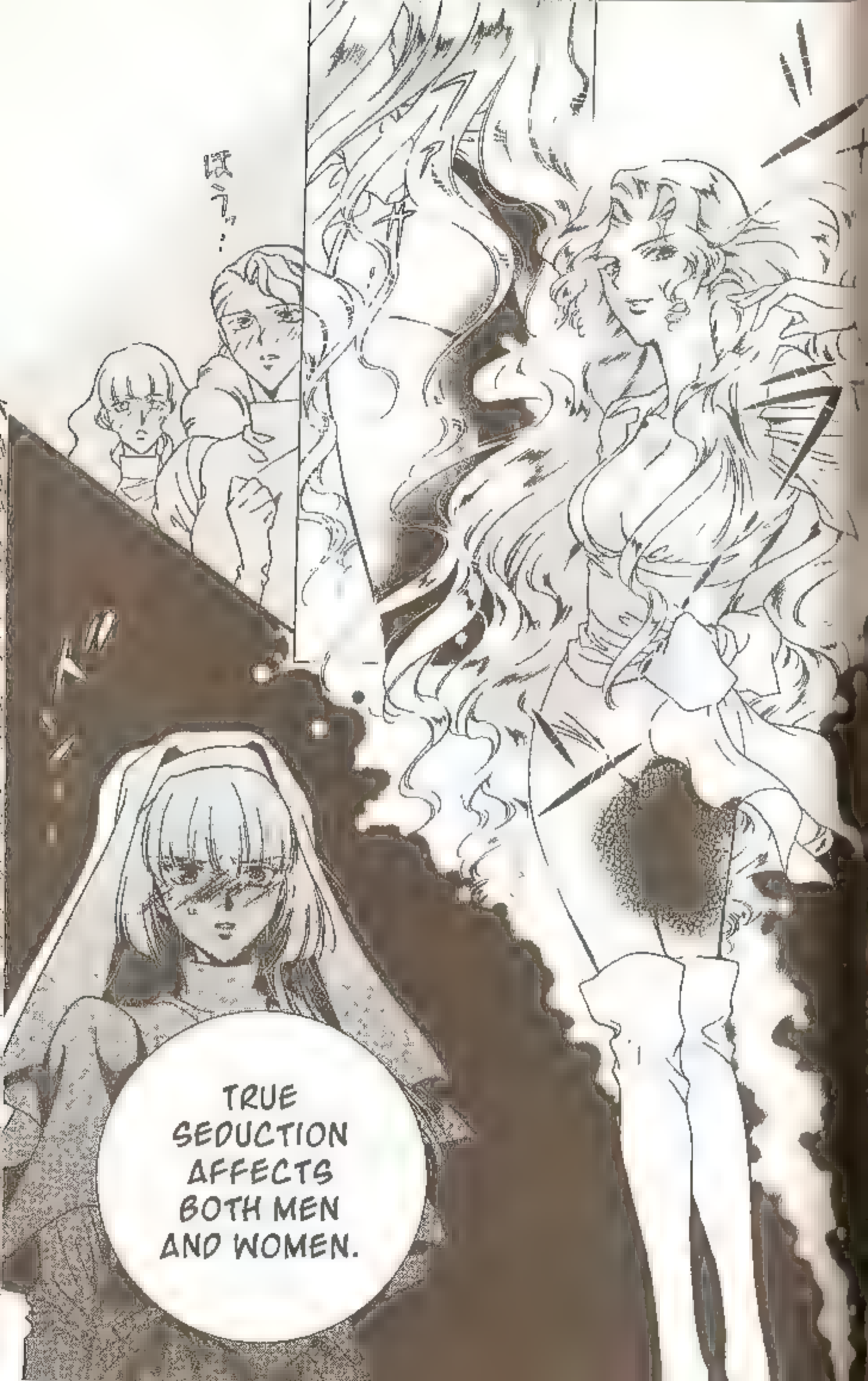


ALLOW
THEM TO
EXIST
BECAUSE
I CAN USE
THEM.

...IS THE
EPHEMERIS
I WILL
MAKE IT
MINE.

*HIYAKU. IT MEANS "SECRET KEY" IN JAPANESE. IT CAN ALSO
MEAN THE HINT NEEDED TO UNRAVEL A MYSTERY.





ほー...

TRUE
SEDUCTION
AFFECTS
BOTH MEN
AND WOMEN.



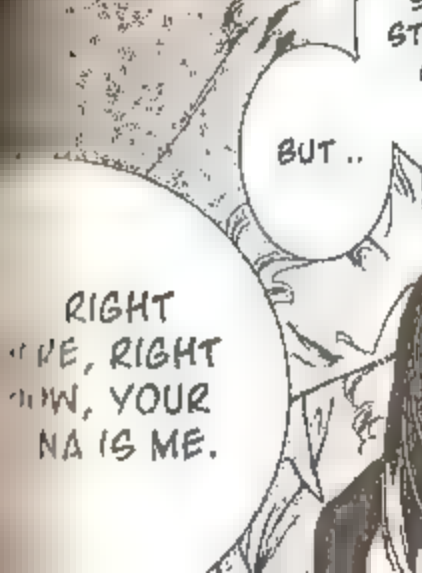
MY MIND
IS GOING
NUMB.
I CAN'T
THINK...



I CAN
GRANT
YOUR
EVERY
DESIRE.



I CAN
SYMPATHIZE
WITH YOUR
HATRED
AND YOUR
LONELINESS.



N-NO! I'VE
ALREADY
DECIDED
ON MY
ONE AND
ONLY--
ON MY
YUNA!

SUCH A
SWEET
SCENT...



SUCH A
STUBBORN
CHILD.

BUT ..

RIGHT
YEA, RIGHT
NOW, YOUR
NAME IS ME.



DON'T
RUN.

I...
CAN'T....!

IT MUST
HAVE
BEEN SO
TERRIBLE
FOR YOU

BUT
EVERY-
THING
WILL BE
ALL
RIGHT
NOW.

FIRIEL
...

I ACCEPT
EVERYTHING
ABOUT YOU.

NOW,
JUST
RELAX...

crash



GET AWAY
FROM
RUNETTE
RIGHT
NOW!!



FIRIEL!

YOU
SUCCUBUS!!



huff
//
P
"

huff
//
P
"

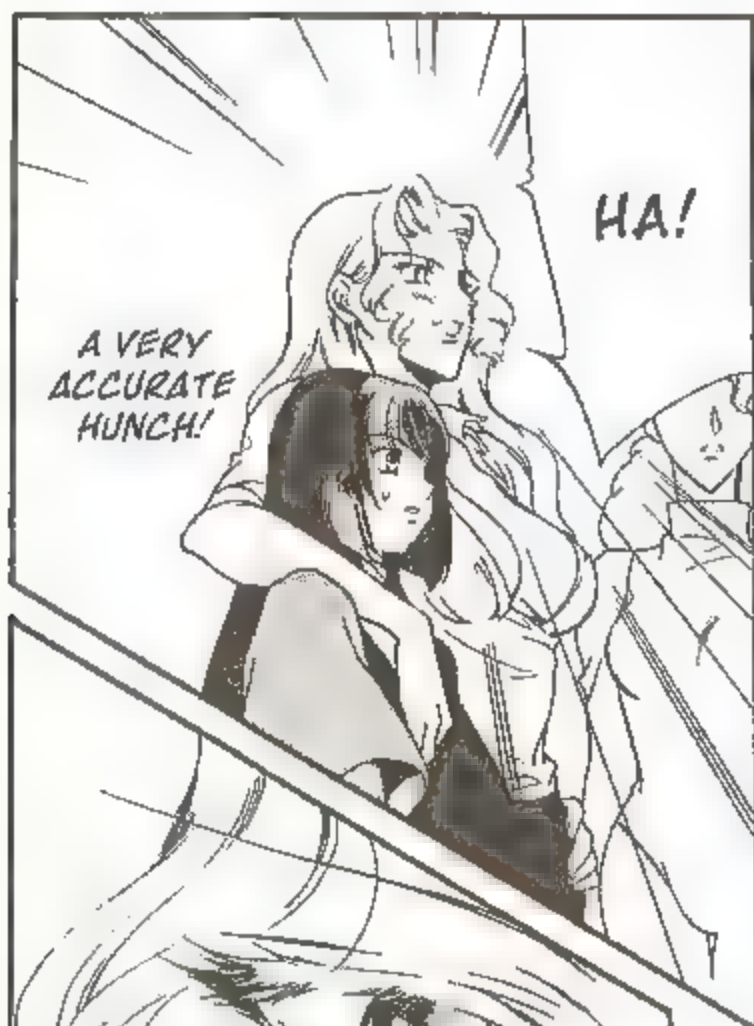


ENOUGH.

THIS IS NOT
SOMEPLACE
YOU BELONG,
DOG!



DO YOU
KNOW WHO
I AM, LITTLE
KITTEN?

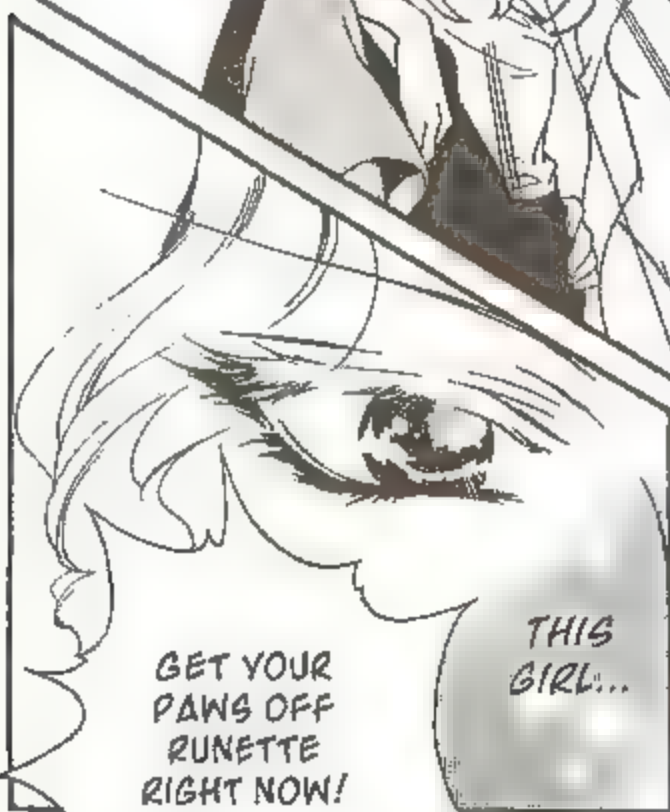


A VERY
ACCURATE
HUNCH!

HA!



LEANDRA



GET YOUR
PAWS OFF
RUNETTE
RIGHT NOW!

THIS
GIRL...



THAT'S
JUST A
HUNCH,
THOUGH.



IF YOU
DON'T WANT
THE ENTIRE
ACADEMY TO
KNOW THAT
"RINNETE"
IS A HE

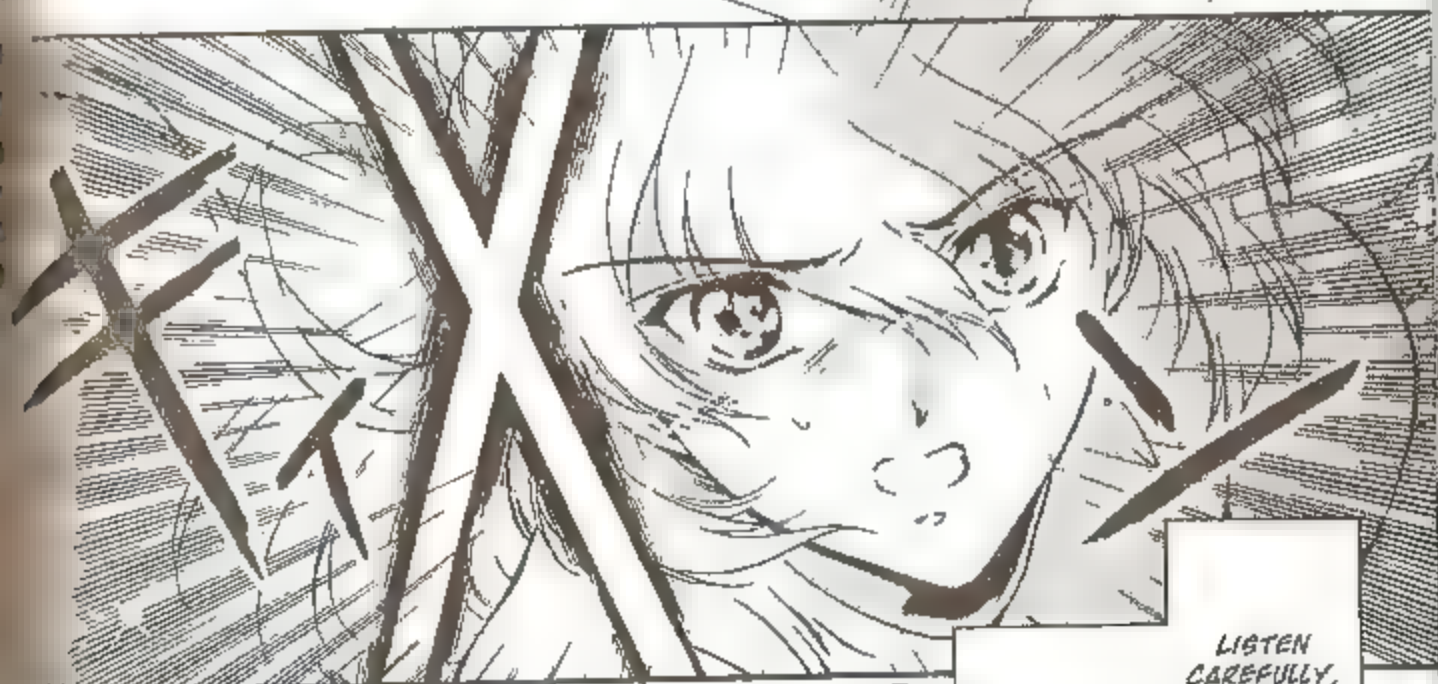
THEN
YOU WILL
FOLLOW
MY EVERY
COMMAND

NO, I
DON'T
THINK I
SHALL

YOU ARE
NOT A MONK
ANY
OTHER

Chapter 14: On the Petaled Stage





LISTEN
CAREFULLY,
FIRIEL.

YOUR
GREATEST
WEAPON
IS YOUR
ABILITY.

USE IT
TO DART
TO YOUR
OPPONENT'S
FLANK AND
STRIKE
HARD!





cling



WHILE SHE
MAY LOOK
LIKE NOTHING
MORE THAN A
FEATHERBRAIN,
SHE MOST
CERTAINLY
IS NOT.

RAVENNA,
THIS GIRL
SHOULD NOT
BE CALLED
A DOG.

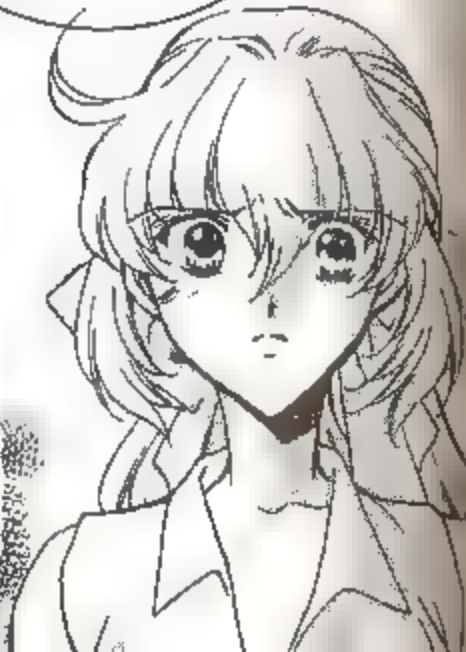


WELL,
YOU'RE
REALLY
BEAUTIFUL...

...AND,
PERSONALITY-
WISE, YOU'RE
THE TOTAL
OPPOSITE
OF ADALE.



WHAT
WAS YOUR
FIRST
CLUE,
KITTEN?



SHE DID DEDUCE
MY TRUE
IDENTITY ON
NOTHING MORE
THAN A HUNCH,
AFTER ALL.



THOUGH
THEY BOTH
HAVE THE
SAME
INTENSE
CHARISMA...

...ONE IS
AN ANGEL,
THE OTHER
A DEVIL.

THE TWO
QUEENS-IN-
WAITING...IN
THEIR HANDS
THE SAME
POWER IS AS
DIFFERENT
AS NIGHT
AND DAY.

IF GRAAL WAS
AT PEACE, MY
LITTLE SISTER'S
WAY MIGHT HAVE
A HOPE OF
WORKING...

THE
ONLY
ONE FIT
FOR THE
THRONE
IS ME.

DISASTER?



SHE JUST
SITS
WARM AND
CRADLED
IN HER
MAJESTY'S
LAP, AND
DREAMS
HER
FLUFFY
HAPPY
DREAMS

...BUT
IT'S NOT.
INSTEAD, IT
IS FACING
DISASTER
ON A SCALE
NEVER
BEFORE
SEEN.

BUT THE
STAR QUEEN
HAS ALWAYS
LED US WITH
WISDOM AND
INTELLIGENCE

THERE'S
NO WAY
ANY
DISASTER
COULD
EVER
REALLY
DESTROY
GRAAL...

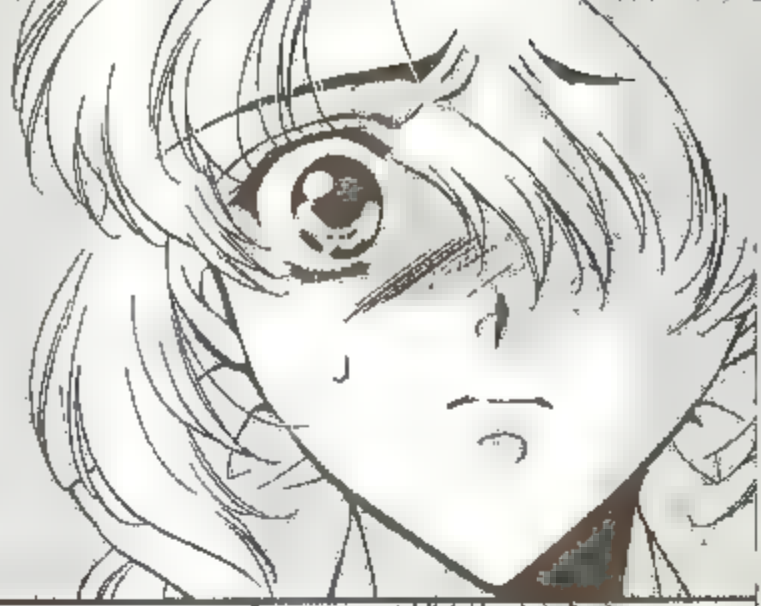
BUT BACK TO
THE QUESTION
AT HAND
WHAT DO YOU
THINK YOU
CAN DO TO
STOP ME?
EXPOSING
"RUNETTE" AS
A BOY WOULD
BE SIMPLICITY
ITSELF
FOR ME

YOU'LL
LEARN
THAT
SOON
ENOUGH.

IT'S JUST
IMPOSSIBLE
FOR YOU TO
DENY ME,
KITTEN.

GRAND-
MOTHER
IS NOT
A GOD.

ADALE HASN'T
DISCOVERED
THE DISASTER'S
SOURCE YET.
SHE DOESN'T
KNOW WHO OUR
TRUE ENEMY IS.



YOU DON'T
HAVE TO
LISTEN TO
HER, FIRIEL.



IF IT
WEREN'T,
THERE'D
BE NO
NEED FOR
YOUR
DISGUISE
AS SISTER
LAIN.

LEANORA

I BET
HAVING
THE
ROLAND
FAMILY OR
THE STAR
QUEEN
KNOW THAT
YOU'RE
HERE IS
THE LAST
THING YOU
WANT.

BUT
FIRIEL'S
SEEN
THROUGH
IT.

...JUST
BEING HERE
AT TAURUS IS
AN INCREDIBLY
DANGEROUS MOVE
ON YOUR PART,
ISN'T IT?



WHAT
DO YOU
WANT?!

WHAT
ARE YOU
HOPING TO
ACCOMPLISH
HERE AT THE
ACADEMY?!



THERE ARE
MOMENTS
WHEN
YOU ARE
TERRIBLY
JNCJTE,
CHILD



DO YOU
REALLY WANT
TO KNOW?



AND HERE
I WAS
PLAYING
NICE

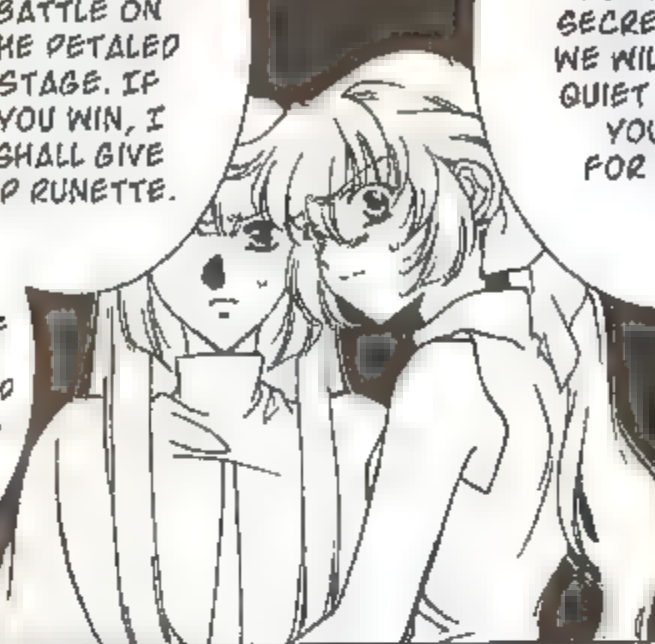


MARIE
KNOWS
I CAME
HERE.

IF I DON'T
ME BACK,
I'LL BRING
INT AND
EVERYBODY
WIN HERE
KILL ME!



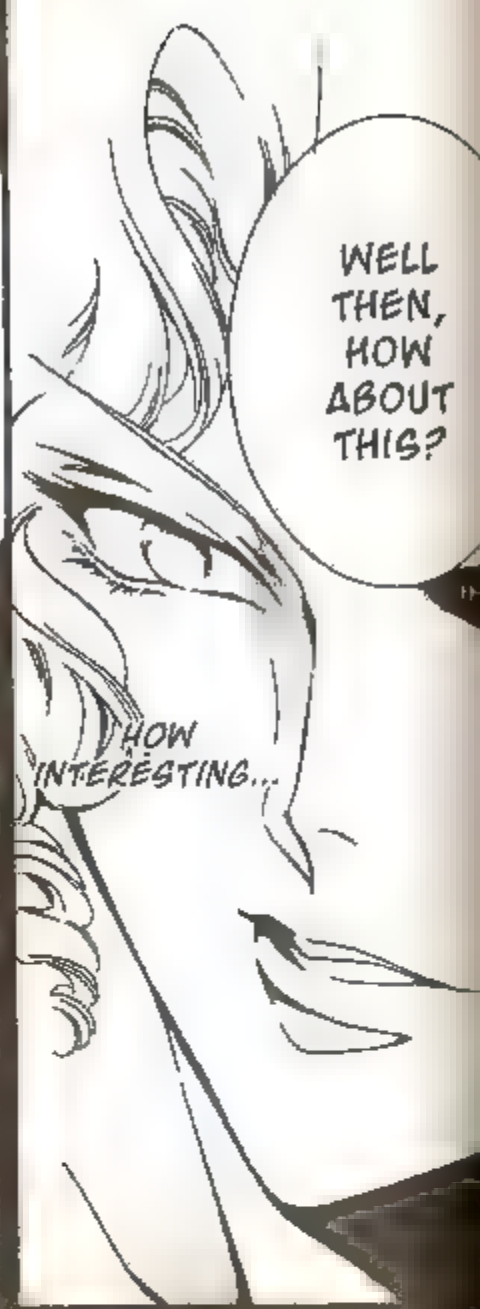
IF
I TELL YOU,
YOU MIGHT
NOT BE ABLE
TO LEAVE THIS
ROOM ALIVE.



HOWEVER,
WE SHALL
BET ON YOUR
BATTLE ON
THE PETAELO
STAGE. IF
YOU WIN, I
SHALL GIVE
UP RUNETTE.

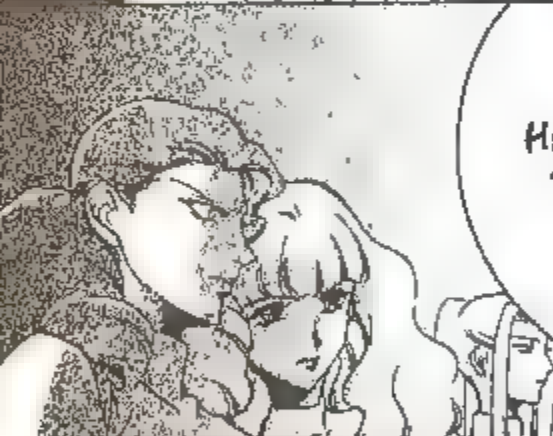
BUT IF
YOU
SHOULD
LOSE.

YOU SAY
NOTHING
ABOUT MY
SECRET, AND
WE WILL KEEP
QUIET ABOUT
YOURS.
FOR NOW.



WELL
THEN,
HOW
ABOUT
THIS?

HOW
INTERESTING...



HE BELONGS TO
THE STUDENT
COUNCIL.



THAT IS
ENOUGH
FOR
TODAY.



YOU'VE
DONE
PRETTY
WELL THIS
PAST
MONTH.

I
EXPECTED
YOU TO
GIVE UP
LONG AGO.



TELL ME THE
TRUTH, IGRAINE.
DO YOU REALLY
THINK I CAN
BEAT RAVENNA
TOMORROW?

YOU
KNOW
WE'RE ON
THE STAR
TERRACE,
RIGHT?

IT'S
WHERE
STU-
DENTS
COME TO
EXPRESS
THEIR
FEEL-
INGS FOR
ONE AN-
OTHER.

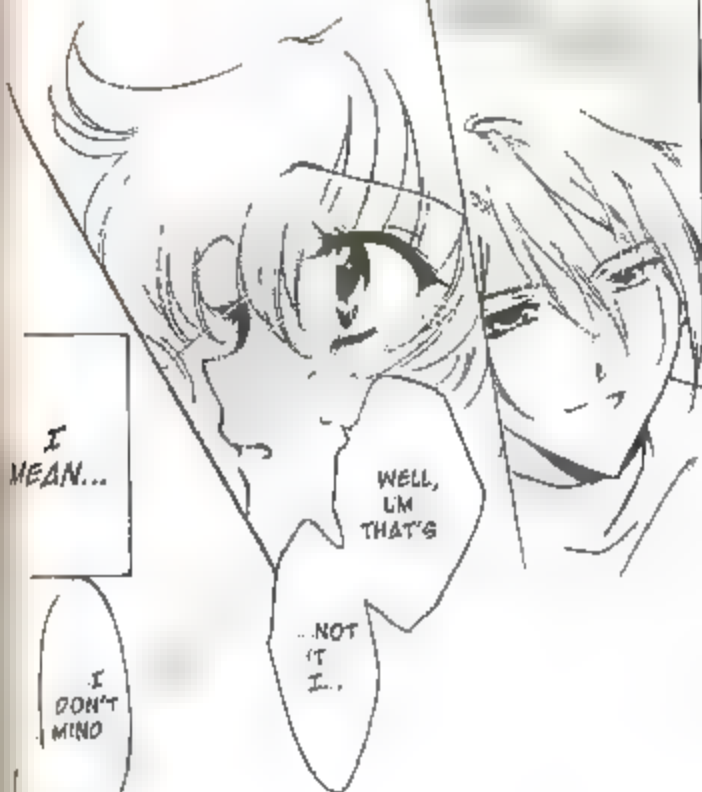
A LITTLE
PRAYER
THAT MY
SKILLS
INFUSE
YOU DURING
THE DUEL.

IF THE GODDESS
SEES FIT TO
GRANT YOU
PHENOMENAL
LUCK THEN
PERHAPS.

WELL,
THAT WAS
HONEST.

SHALL I GIVE
YOU A GOOD
LUCK CHARM,
THEN?

WELL?
WOULD
YOU
LIKE THE
CHARM?



I
MEAN...

WELL,
UM
THAT'S

...NOT
IT
I...

I
DON'T
MIND

I
NEED



I-I-
IGRAINE!!

YOU
DON'T
WANT
TO?

IGRAINE IS
USUALLY SO
STERN AND
TERSE...

THE AIR
AROUND
HER...

...BUT RIGHT
NOW I CAN TELL
JUST HOW MUCH
IGRAINE REALLY
CARES FOR ME!

...FEELS
SO
SOFT...

...AND
GENTLE.

SHE
DOESN'T
HAVE
TO SAY
ANYTHING,
I JUST
KNOW...

KISSES...

...ARE MEANT
TO MAKE
PEOPLE
HAPPY LIKE
THIS, RIGHT?

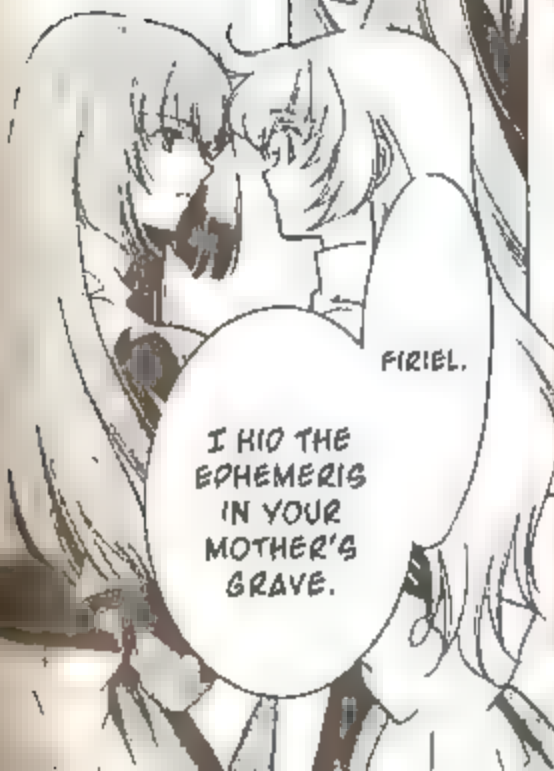
RUNETTE!

I'VE BEEN
LOOKING ALL
OVER FOR
YOU! I GOT
WORRIED WHEN
I COULDN'T
FIND YOU IN
YOUR ROOM.

I FOUND
THIS PLACE
CALLED THE STAR
TERRACE! THERE'S
GOING TO BE A
METEOR SHOWER
TONIGHT, AND
THIS IS THE BEST
PLACE TO SEE IT!



...RUNE
WILL...



FIRIEL.

I HIO THE
EPHEMERIS
IN YOUR
MOTHER'S
GRAVE.



WHY DON'T
YOU TRY
RESEARCHING
SOMETHING
ELSE?
SOMETHING
THAT WON'T
HAVE PEOPLE
TRYING TO
KILL YOU

CAN'T
IT BE
ANYTHING
SAFER?

DOES IT
ALWAYS
HAVE TO BE
ASTRONOMY
WITH YOU?

SOME DAY

JUST
LIKE THE
PROFESSOR



...AT
LEAST
ONCE
BEFORE
I DIE.

LET'S GO
BACK TO SERA
FIELD SOMEDAY,
FIRIEL. TO THE
OBSERVATORY.

ONLY THE
PROFESSOR
AND I KNOW
WHERE
THAT IS.

THE
WHOLE
TIME THOSE
PEOPLE HAD
ME, I KEPT
THINKING
ONE THING ..

THAT IF I
DIED, THEN
NO ONE
WOULD BE
ABLE TO
TELL YOU
WHERE YOUR
MOTHER'S
BODY WAS
LAIN TO
REST

LET'S
VISIT YOUR
MOTHER'S
GRAVE
TOGETHER...

THERE!

WHAT
DOES HE
MEAN BY
THAT?

FIRIEL,
DID YOU
SEE IT?

RUNE.

RUNE

I LIKE
YOU. A
LOT.

I
MEAN...

IF RUNE ISN'T
HAPPY, THEN
THERE'S NO
WAY I COULD BE
HAPPY, EITHER.

I HOPE HE CAN
FEEL WHAT I'M
FEELING NOW.

...YOU'RE
MY ONE
AND ONLY
PRECIOUS
FAMILY!

FIRIEL
...

HEY!!

.. YOU
REALLY ARE
TOTALLY
CLUELESS!

SOMETHING'S
NOT RIGHT
HERE.

MAYBE THAT
ONE DIDN'T
MAKE RUNE
HAPPY?

ARE YOU
SAYING I DID
SOMETHING
WRONG?!

OKAY.
LET'S DO
THAT ONE
MORE TIME,
THEN

?

THIS WAY
IS MORE
LIKE YOU,
ANYWAY

NEVER
MIND
FORGET
IT



WHAT DO YOU
THINK YOU'RE
DOING?!

I CAN'T
BELIEVE
YOU'D
STOOP TO
SOMETHING
THIS UNDER-
HANDED!

"THE HARVEST MAIDEN
FESTIVAL WILL SEE ANOTHER
SACRIFICE TAKE PLACE THE
DETAILED STAGE WILL BECOME
A FLOWER-BEDECKED COFFIN
IF YOU DO NOT CEASE YOUR
CHALLENGE, THE BODY THOSE
FLOWERS DECORATE WILL
BE THAT OF YOUR MOST
PRECIOUS LOVED ONE "

THIS WASN'T
WRITTEN BY
ANY OF JS.

WHO
ELSE IS
THERE?!

LISTEN,
LITTLE
KITTEN

THE ONLY
THING
THAT'S
CERTAIN
IS THAT
ROSELITTE
WAS KILLED
BY SOMEONE
WHO IS
AGAINST THE
STUDENT
COUNCIL

WHO
KNOWS?

HUH?
BUT,
THEN
WHO?

YOU MAY
HAVE DECIDED
IN YOUR OWN
LITTLE MIND
THAT WE
ARE BEHIND
EVERYTHING

...BUT BE IT BY
SOMETHING LIKE
ROSELITTE'S DEATH OR
SOME OTHER ACCIDENT,
THERE WAS NOTHING THE
STUDENT COUNCIL COULD
GAIN BY DISRUPTING
OUR OWN PLAY.

VINCENT
WOULDN'T !

THE RULES
STATE THE
CHALLENGER
MUST ALWAYS
WEAR BLACK

BUT IN
YOUR CASE
IT MAKES
YOU LOOK
QUITE
GALLANT

IT'S TIME
FOR YOU
TO CHANGE
INTO YOUR
COSTUME

HELLO,
FIRIEL.

BY
SOMEONE
AGAINST
THE
COUNCIL.

NO
WAY !

FIRIEL?

SISTER
FIRIEL!!

Eep!

BUT, EVEN
IF SHE
DID...

THERE'S
TOO MUCH
RIDING ON
THIS FOR
ME TO JUST
GIVE UP!



Oh!

LADIES,
PLEASE IF
FIRIEL WORE
ALL THAT,
SHE WOULDN'T
BE ABLE TO
MOVE!

VINCENT

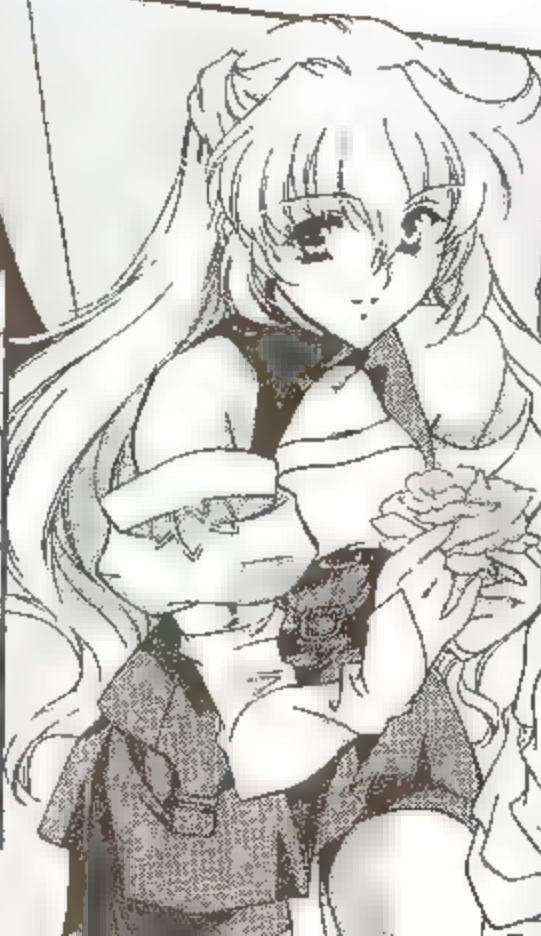
WE
MADE
THESE
FOR
YOU!

WOULD
YOU
PLEASE
WEAR
THIS
SASH?

I
WOULD BE
HONORED IF
YOU WOULD
WEAR THIS
LACE ON YOUR
COSTUME!



OH!



WHAT A
LOVELY ROSE
CORSAGE.

THE
CRYSTAL
DEWDROP
REALLY
SPARKLES.

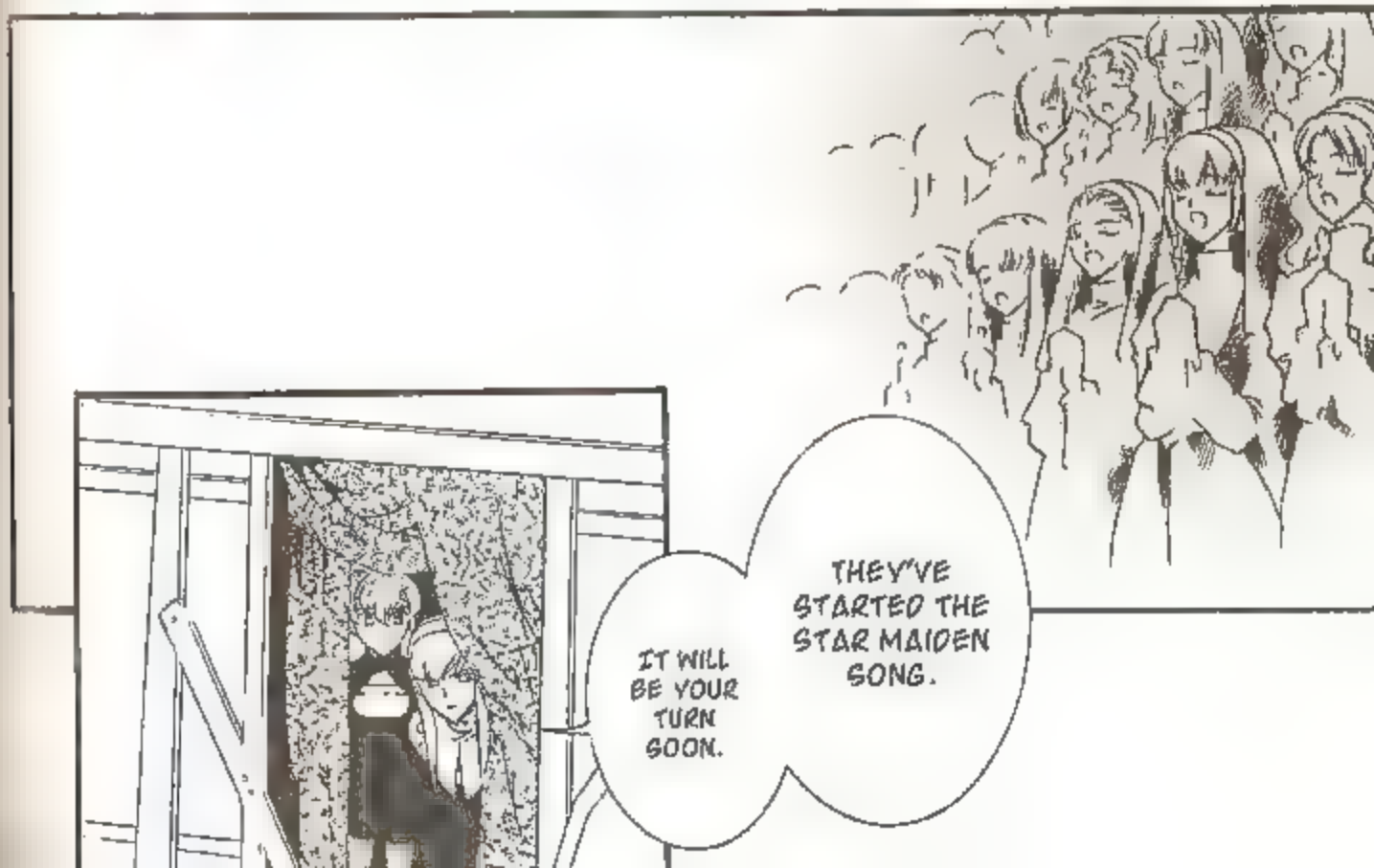


SISTER
FIRE!!

YOU'RE
FABULOUS!!

I'LL THINK
OF THIS
FLOWER
AS ALL
YOUR GOOD
WISHES
FOR ME

THANK YOU,
EVERYONE!
I'LL DO MY
BEST!!



THEY'VE
STARTED THE
STAR MAIDEN
SONG.

IT WILL
BE YOUR
TURN
SOON.



ANGEL
AND
DEVIL.

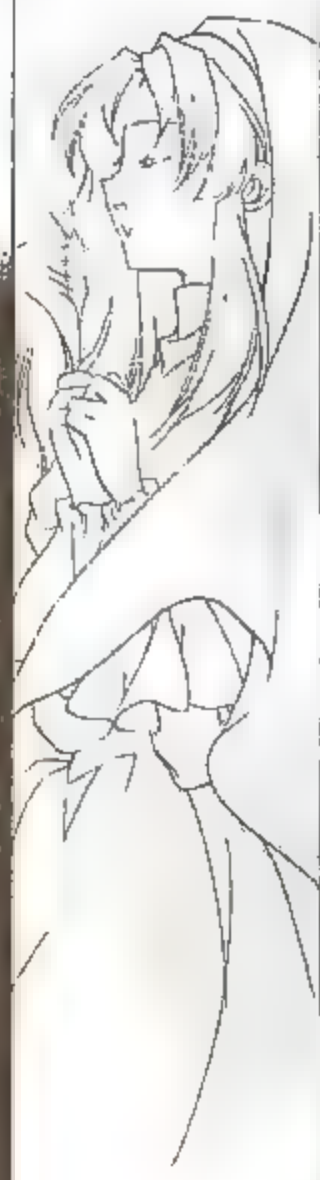
NO.

ALL THE
GIRLS
AT THE
TAURUS
ACADEMY

ALL OF
THE WOMEN
OF GRAAL
ARE BOTH
OF THOSE
THINGS AT
THE SAME
TIME.

YOUNG
MAIDENS
WHO LOOK
COMPLETELY
PURE IN
BOTH BODY
AND MIND

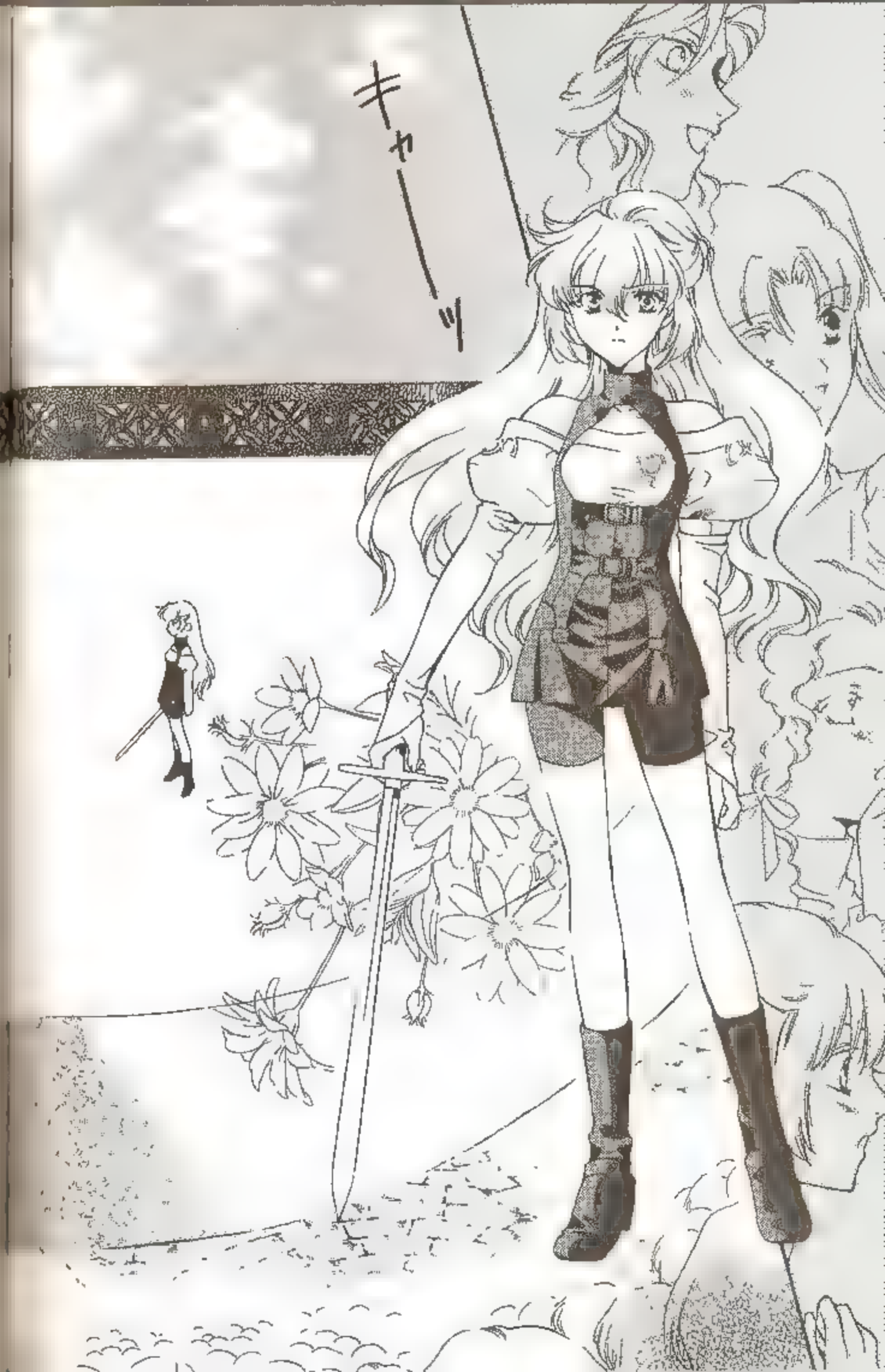
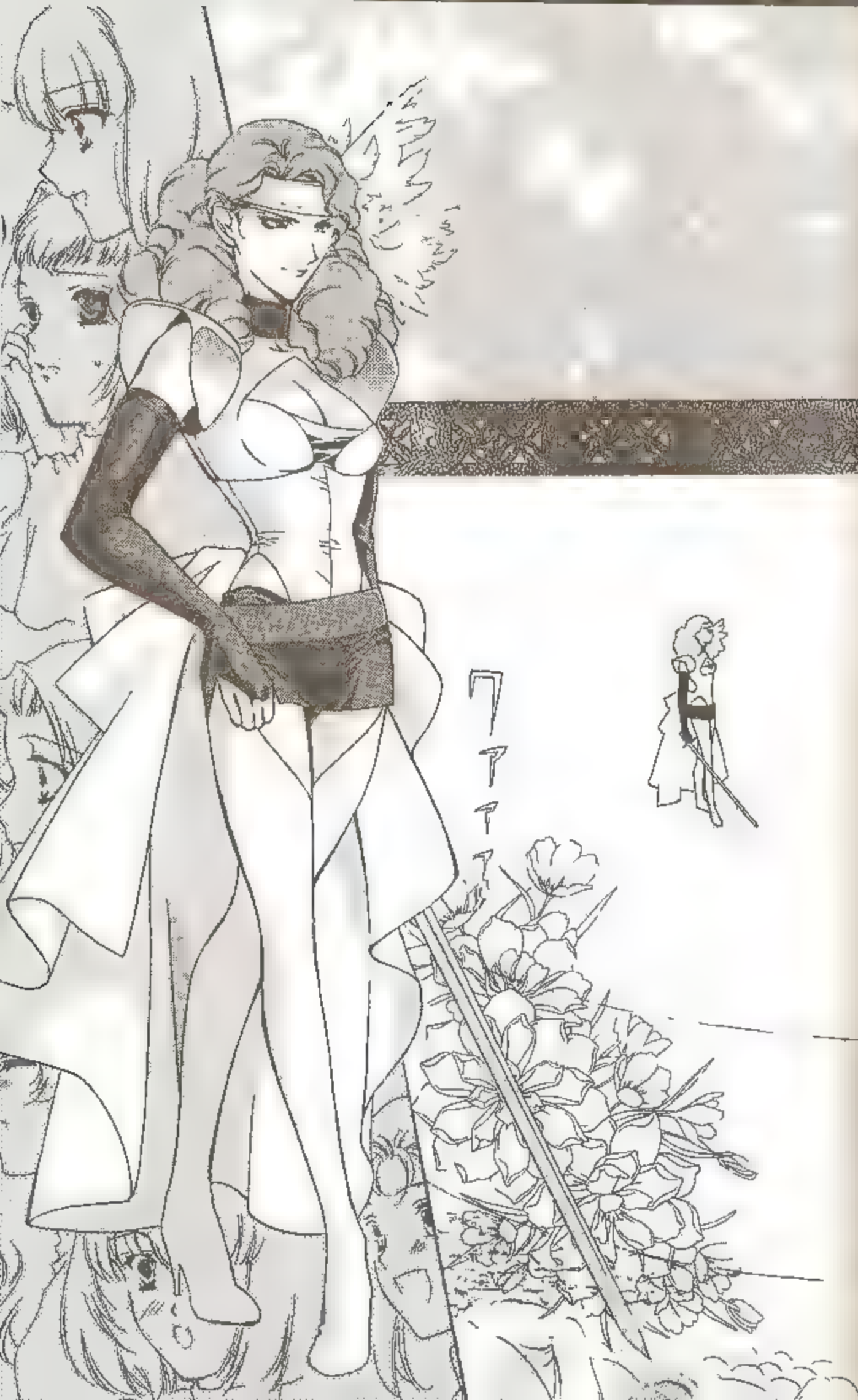
VOICES SO
CLEAR THEY
COULD FLOAT
AWAY ON THE
CLOUDS



BUT,
UNDERNEATH
THEIR PRISTINE
EXTERIORS
LIE SHARP,
VICIOUS FANGS
THEY ARE NOT
AFRAID TO USE



GO!



NO!

THE STUDENT
COUNCIL GOT
THE EXACT
SAME LETTER
AS YOU!

YOU
SENT
IT?!

HOOP TO
GO AHEAD
WITH THE
CHALLENGE
VETERAN

OUT!

う
≠
14

THIS ONE, AND THE
ONE WE RECEIVED
RIGHT BEFORE THE
SUMMER EQUINOX
FESTIVAL, BOTH SAID
SOMEONE WOULD DIE
IF WE DIDN'T CANCEL
THE FESTIVALS!

SO YOU'RE
SAYING
ROSELITTE
WAS KILLED
BECAUSE YOU
IGNORED THE
WARNING?!

YOU
READ THAT
LETTER



I
COULDN'T
TURN
BACK!
NOT
THEN,
NOT
NOW!

THE ONLY WAY
FOR A COMMON-
BORN GIRL LIKE
ME TO SURVIVE
IN THE ROYAL
COURT IS TO
KEEP WINNING!



IN
LOOKS, IN
ABILITIES...

I CAN'T
AFFORD TO
LOSE EVEN
ONCE!



ESPECIALLY
TO A LITTLE
NOBODY
LIKE YOU!!



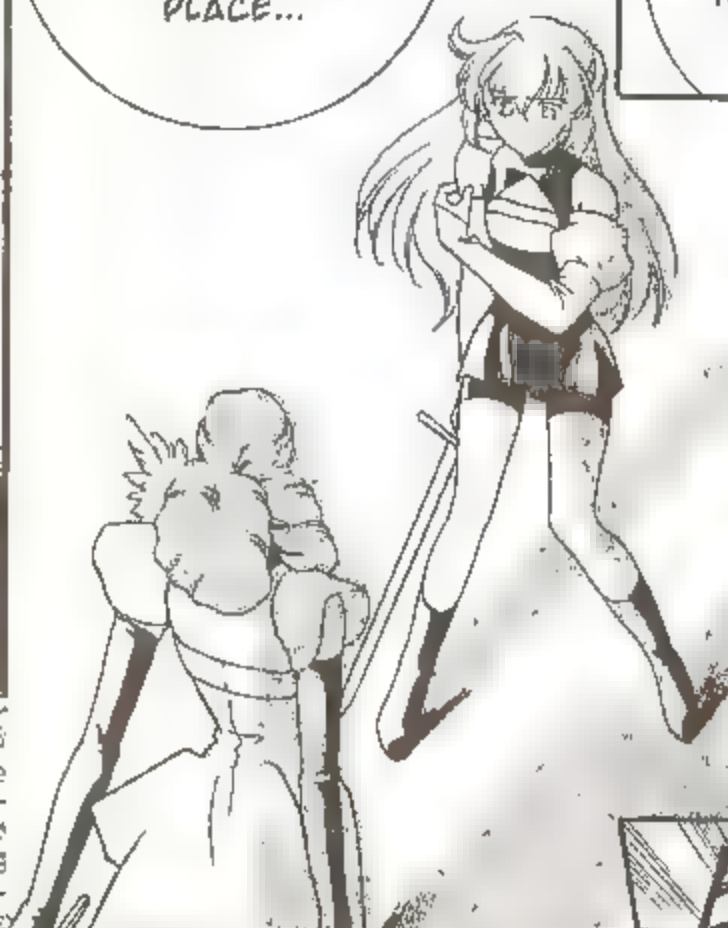
EEEK!
LOOK
OUT!



AND HER
SKILLS ARE
NOWHERE NEAR
RAVENNA'S
IN THE FIRST
PLACE...

FIRIEL'S
DISADVANTAGED BY
BEING FACED
TO THE
SUN.

THIS
IS NOT
GOOD.



NOW
HERE'S
AN
IDEA.

WHY DON'T I
SLICE YOUR
CLOTHES OFF
PIECE BY PIECE
UNTIL YOU'RE
COMPLETELY
NAKED?

YOU'LL BE THE
LAUGHINGSTOCK
OF THE ENTIRE
ACADEMY



WHAT'S
WRONG?

• Hello everyone! Thank you so much for picking up *The Good Witch* of the West volume three! This volume is the "Academy Arc," roughly equivalent to volume two of the novels. Like I said in the last volume, I'm having a BLAST!! YAY!! I feel so great I want to thank everyone! I wonder what on earth I did in my previous life to deserve so much awesomeness in this one. This has got to be one of the best three moments in my entire life! I mean, in this volume my favorite character, Leandra, is introduced! I wish she could keep trying to seduce Rune. (I absolutely ADORE that one scene in the third volume of the novel's side-stories)

• I haven't drawn this manga alone, though, I've had tons of help. I've received piles of fan mail, a mountain of advice on fencing, help above and beyond the call of duty from my assistants, incredible support of my slow talk from my supervisor, all my friends, and of course the wonderful Ogiwara-sensei. THANK YOU SO MUCH, ALL OF YOU!!!

Volume three was a veritable storm of dresses. Everybody was wearing them. I've done a lot of practice drawing corsets and all sorts of dresses (it's hard!), but no matter how hard I try, I just can't seem to come up with enough designs. I've gotten a lot of different books on dresses, but it's not enough.

Attention!

Send Morioka your dress designs! There's a really high chance they'll be used in future volumes of *Good Witch*! In other words, help me!

I'll be sure to send you a thank you note in return!

Send design c/o:
TOKYOPOP
Attn: Hope Donovan
5900 Wilshire Blvd.
Suite 2000
Los Angeles,
CA 90036

2005. 2. 19
村岡 春日 井
Haruhiko Morioka

Dear Mother,

My duel with Ravenna ended with a most frightful conclusion. Though, once again it is thanks to Adale that no serious harm was done. Now that I am back with her and Eusis, I wonder if I ever shall be free of the Roland family, or if Adale will press me further on this idea of marriage to Eusis...

Firiel Dee

In the Next

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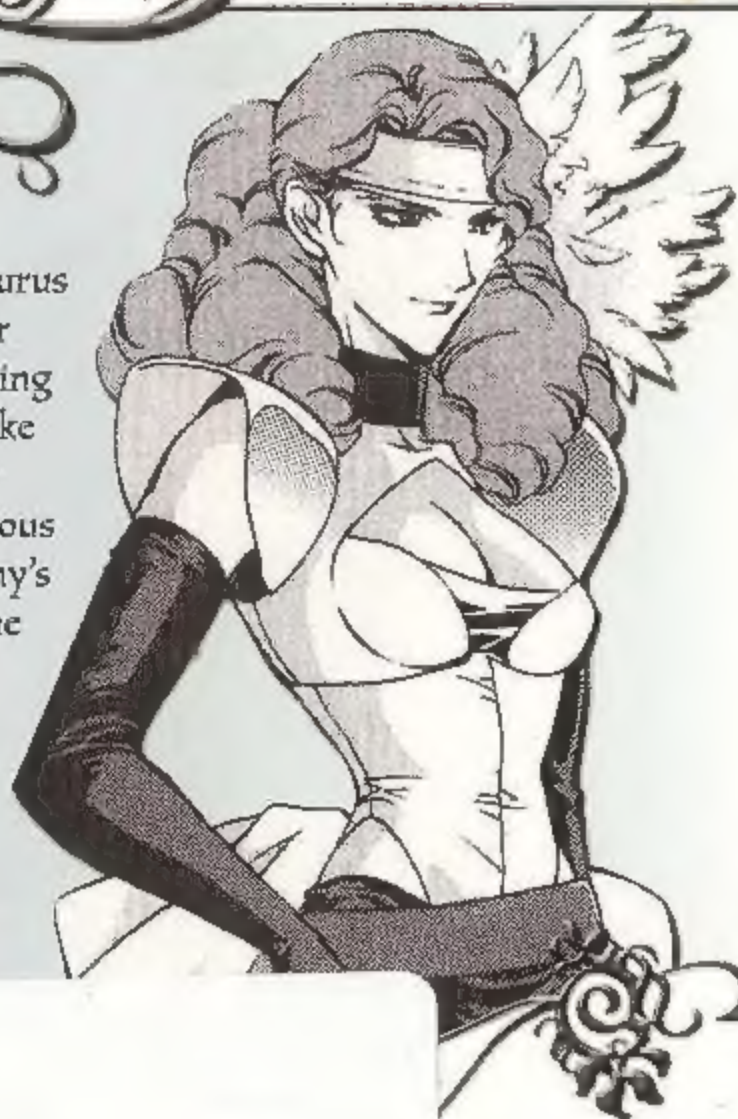
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Firiel soon learns the price of her bargain with the Count of Rualgo. At Taurus Academy, the girls treat her lower than a dog. She's willing to take the abuse for the sake of Rune's protection by the Count. But will her scandalous friendship with the Academy's fencing instructor scar Rune even more?

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